



1
00:00:05,510 --> 00:00:03,990
nasa's jet propulsion laboratory

2
00:00:08,310 --> 00:00:05,520
presents

3
00:00:10,310 --> 00:00:08,320
the von carmen lecture a series of talks

4
00:00:13,669 --> 00:00:10,320
by scientists and engineers who are

5
00:00:27,990 --> 00:00:13,679
exploring our planet our solar system

6
00:00:31,509 --> 00:00:29,750
good evening ladies and gentlemen how's

7
00:00:33,030 --> 00:00:31,519
everyone tonight

8
00:00:34,549 --> 00:00:33,040
good well thanks again for coming out to

9
00:00:36,630 --> 00:00:34,559
join us this evening

10
00:00:38,869 --> 00:00:36,640
where is the best place to find living

11
00:00:41,110 --> 00:00:38,879
life beyond earth it may be that the

12
00:00:43,270 --> 00:00:41,120
small ice covered moons of jupiter and

13
00:00:45,430 --> 00:00:43,280

saturn harbor some of the most habitable

14

00:00:47,430 --> 00:00:45,440

real estate in our solar system

15

00:00:48,950 --> 00:00:47,440

life loves liquid water and these moons

16

00:00:50,229 --> 00:00:48,960

have lots of it

17

00:00:52,069 --> 00:00:50,239

tonight's lecture will explain the

18

00:00:53,990 --> 00:00:52,079

science behind why we think we know

19

00:00:55,830 --> 00:00:54,000

these oceans exist and what we know

20

00:00:57,990 --> 00:00:55,840

about the conditions on these worlds

21

00:01:00,150 --> 00:00:58,000

while focusing on jupiter's moon europa

22

00:01:01,189 --> 00:01:00,160

which is a top priority for future nasa

23

00:01:02,869 --> 00:01:01,199

missions

24

00:01:04,469 --> 00:01:02,879

and we'll also show how the exploration

25

00:01:07,270 --> 00:01:04,479

of earth's ocean is helping to inform

26
00:01:09,030 --> 00:01:07,280
our understanding of worlds like europa

27
00:01:11,109 --> 00:01:09,040
born and raised in manchester vermont

28
00:01:13,030 --> 00:01:11,119
tonight's guest earned two bachelor's

29
00:01:14,950 --> 00:01:13,040
degrees from dartmouth college and his

30
00:01:16,070 --> 00:01:14,960
master's and phd from stanford

31
00:01:17,910 --> 00:01:16,080
university

32
00:01:19,670 --> 00:01:17,920
he is now the deputy chief scientist for

33
00:01:21,830 --> 00:01:19,680
solar system exploration right here at

34
00:01:23,910 --> 00:01:21,840
nasa's jet propulsion laboratory

35
00:01:25,990 --> 00:01:23,920
his research his research focuses on the

36
00:01:28,070 --> 00:01:26,000
origin evolution and distribution of

37
00:01:30,230 --> 00:01:28,080
life in the solar system with an

38
00:01:31,910 --> 00:01:30,240

emphasis on moons of the outer solar

39

00:01:33,030 --> 00:01:31,920

system that likely have liquid water

40

00:01:35,109 --> 00:01:33,040

oceans

41

00:01:36,789 --> 00:01:35,119

his work involves numerical modeling

42

00:01:38,710 --> 00:01:36,799

laboratory experiments and field

43

00:01:40,469 --> 00:01:38,720

campaigns exploring some of earth's most

44

00:01:41,830 --> 00:01:40,479

extreme environments

45

00:01:44,069 --> 00:01:41,840

his field work has brought him to the

46

00:01:46,550 --> 00:01:44,079

dry valleys of antarctica the depths of

47

00:01:48,149 --> 00:01:46,560

the earth's oceans the icy permafrost of

48

00:01:51,350 --> 00:01:48,159

alaska and to the glaciers of

49

00:01:53,749 --> 00:01:51,360

kilimanjaro in 2011 he was selected as a

50

00:01:55,109 --> 00:01:53,759

national geographic emerging explorer

51
00:01:56,630 --> 00:01:55,119
and has been featured in several

52
00:01:59,670 --> 00:01:56,640
television documentaries for national

53
00:02:02,069 --> 00:01:59,680
geographic discovery and pbs and was

54
00:02:04,389 --> 00:02:02,079
featured in the imax film aliens of the

55
00:02:06,230 --> 00:02:04,399
deep he has made nine dives to the

56
00:02:08,710 --> 00:02:06,240
bottom of the ocean and was also a

57
00:02:11,430 --> 00:02:08,720
scientist on board james cameron's 2012

58
00:02:12,790 --> 00:02:11,440
dive to the bottom of the mariana trench

59
00:02:19,510 --> 00:02:12,800
ladies and gentlemen please help me

60
00:02:25,750 --> 00:02:22,790
thank you mark

61
00:02:32,309 --> 00:02:28,390
thank you very much

62
00:02:33,670 --> 00:02:32,319
the the question of whether or not life

63
00:02:36,550 --> 00:02:33,680

exists

64

00:02:40,070 --> 00:02:36,560

beyond earth is one of the oldest

65

00:02:42,949 --> 00:02:40,080

most primordial unanswered questions

66

00:02:45,670 --> 00:02:42,959

that humanity still has and that's

67

00:02:47,430 --> 00:02:45,680

much of what motivates my interest in

68

00:02:49,110 --> 00:02:47,440

these ocean worlds of the outer solar

69

00:02:52,309 --> 00:02:49,120

system

70

00:02:54,790 --> 00:02:52,319

but uh just to be clear tonight i will

71

00:02:56,309 --> 00:02:54,800

not be covering

72

00:02:58,149 --> 00:02:56,319

ufos

73

00:02:59,670 --> 00:02:58,159

alien abductions

74

00:03:02,630 --> 00:02:59,680

furry little creatures from other

75

00:03:04,790 --> 00:03:02,640

planets with three eyes

76

00:03:06,390 --> 00:03:04,800

when i talk about the search for life

77

00:03:09,430 --> 00:03:06,400

elsewhere

78

00:03:11,270 --> 00:03:09,440

i'm focused on even the tiniest of

79

00:03:14,229 --> 00:03:11,280

little microbes

80

00:03:17,030 --> 00:03:14,239

uh even that discovery

81

00:03:19,030 --> 00:03:17,040

uh the tiniest speck on some distant

82

00:03:21,350 --> 00:03:19,040

world would revolutionize our

83

00:03:24,470 --> 00:03:21,360

understanding of the science of biology

84

00:03:26,710 --> 00:03:24,480

and how our universe works

85

00:03:29,110 --> 00:03:26,720

now this is a question that has

86

00:03:30,710 --> 00:03:29,120

fascinated me since i was a young boy

87

00:03:32,789 --> 00:03:30,720

as mark mentioned

88

00:03:34,949 --> 00:03:32,799

i grew up in a small town in vermont and

89

00:03:36,869 --> 00:03:34,959

and looking at this picture

90

00:03:41,270 --> 00:03:36,879

i guess it's it's no surprise that i

91

00:03:45,910 --> 00:03:43,190

and i attribute i attribute my

92

00:03:48,229 --> 00:03:45,920

fascination with the stars largely to

93

00:03:49,350 --> 00:03:48,239

the clear night skies that vermont

94

00:03:51,509 --> 00:03:49,360

provided

95

00:03:54,149 --> 00:03:51,519

but books like this

96

00:03:55,830 --> 00:03:54,159

also helped to captivate

97

00:03:59,030 --> 00:03:55,840

my imagination

98

00:04:00,630 --> 00:03:59,040

showing a rather optimistic

99

00:04:03,910 --> 00:04:00,640

vision for

100

00:04:05,990 --> 00:04:03,920

aliens in jupiter's atmosphere

101
00:04:07,750 --> 00:04:06,000
some sort of martian creature with

102
00:04:10,630 --> 00:04:07,760
massive ears

103
00:04:12,550 --> 00:04:10,640
and even some sort of dinosaur surviving

104
00:04:14,949 --> 00:04:12,560
somehow on the surface of a world like

105
00:04:17,349 --> 00:04:14,959
europa

106
00:04:19,349 --> 00:04:17,359
but i'd like to show this image for

107
00:04:21,749 --> 00:04:19,359
another reason and that is that

108
00:04:24,230 --> 00:04:21,759
in that background you can see that

109
00:04:26,469 --> 00:04:24,240
these mountains of vermont

110
00:04:28,950 --> 00:04:26,479
our entire planet

111
00:04:31,110 --> 00:04:28,960
is covered with life

112
00:04:32,310 --> 00:04:31,120
and one one of the the beautiful

113
00:04:34,150 --> 00:04:32,320

challenges

114

00:04:35,270 --> 00:04:34,160

that we face in our search for life

115

00:04:38,230 --> 00:04:35,280

elsewhere

116

00:04:41,830 --> 00:04:38,240

is that our home planet

117

00:04:42,950 --> 00:04:41,840

from north south east west high low hot

118

00:04:46,629 --> 00:04:42,960

cold

119

00:04:49,590 --> 00:04:46,639

our planet is teeming with life

120

00:04:52,230 --> 00:04:49,600

and in fact it's hard to find

121

00:04:54,830 --> 00:04:52,240

a spot on our home planet

122

00:04:58,070 --> 00:04:54,840

that does not harbor

123

00:04:59,990 --> 00:04:58,080

life and the story of our search for

124

00:05:02,469 --> 00:05:00,000

life elsewhere

125

00:05:03,670 --> 00:05:02,479

is in part the story

126
00:05:06,390 --> 00:05:03,680
of

127
00:05:07,990 --> 00:05:06,400
this beautiful little planet

128
00:05:09,749 --> 00:05:08,000
reaching out

129
00:05:12,870 --> 00:05:09,759
into the solar system

130
00:05:15,590 --> 00:05:12,880
through our robotic spacecraft each of

131
00:05:17,670 --> 00:05:15,600
these lines here denotes a mission that

132
00:05:20,150 --> 00:05:17,680
has gone out to one of the

133
00:05:24,950 --> 00:05:20,160
worlds in our solar system

134
00:05:26,790 --> 00:05:24,960
as we know here we're just over 50 years

135
00:05:29,590 --> 00:05:26,800
into this endeavor of

136
00:05:31,029 --> 00:05:29,600
searching uh for life beyond

137
00:05:33,189 --> 00:05:31,039
beyond earth

138
00:05:35,270 --> 00:05:33,199

searching for understanding the origins

139

00:05:40,790 --> 00:05:35,280

of our solar system and someday

140

00:05:47,590 --> 00:05:44,870

but our effort to find life elsewhere

141

00:05:48,469 --> 00:05:47,600

begins with understanding life on earth

142

00:05:50,150 --> 00:05:48,479

which

143

00:05:51,590 --> 00:05:50,160

brings us back to this tiny little

144

00:05:53,670 --> 00:05:51,600

valley nestled in the green mountains of

145

00:05:56,710 --> 00:05:53,680

vermont

146

00:05:59,110 --> 00:05:56,720

finding signs of life on a distant world

147

00:06:01,749 --> 00:05:59,120

is complicated by the fact that life

148

00:06:04,230 --> 00:06:01,759

and biological processes have played

149

00:06:05,110 --> 00:06:04,240

such varied and significant roles on

150

00:06:08,950 --> 00:06:05,120

earth

151

00:06:11,510 --> 00:06:08,960

both in the past and in the present

152

00:06:13,029 --> 00:06:11,520

how will we know if we found life on a

153

00:06:15,990 --> 00:06:13,039

distant world

154

00:06:19,110 --> 00:06:16,000

what guidance can life on earth provide

155

00:06:21,990 --> 00:06:19,120

for us in this search

156

00:06:23,670 --> 00:06:22,000

well it would be easy enough if we if we

157

00:06:26,870 --> 00:06:23,680

landed on a planet

158

00:06:28,150 --> 00:06:26,880

and saw trees and

159

00:06:31,270 --> 00:06:28,160

grass

160

00:06:33,510 --> 00:06:31,280

and a tennis court

161

00:06:35,189 --> 00:06:33,520

but so far that hasn't happened and the

162

00:06:37,670 --> 00:06:35,199

situation quickly gets a lot more

163

00:06:40,550 --> 00:06:37,680

complicated when you consider

164

00:06:42,950 --> 00:06:40,560

simple forms and the signs that they

165

00:06:44,309 --> 00:06:42,960

leave on a planet

166

00:06:46,469 --> 00:06:44,319

these mountains serve as a useful

167

00:06:48,710 --> 00:06:46,479

example if you peel away

168

00:06:50,550 --> 00:06:48,720

all these trees and the grass and even

169

00:06:52,469 --> 00:06:50,560

the tennis court you find

170

00:06:55,990 --> 00:06:52,479

these rocks

171

00:06:57,270 --> 00:06:56,000

these are blocks of marble

172

00:06:59,990 --> 00:06:57,280

mined

173

00:07:01,749 --> 00:07:00,000

from this old marble quarry

174

00:07:03,189 --> 00:07:01,759

some of this marble went on to be used

175

00:07:05,749 --> 00:07:03,199

in various monuments and buildings

176
00:07:06,870 --> 00:07:05,759
around the country and around the globe

177
00:07:08,950 --> 00:07:06,880
and

178
00:07:12,070 --> 00:07:08,960
it has its

179
00:07:15,270 --> 00:07:12,080
roots in a story that began

180
00:07:18,230 --> 00:07:15,280
some 350 million years ago

181
00:07:22,550 --> 00:07:18,240
if you rewind the clock of time

182
00:07:26,309 --> 00:07:22,560
in this old mountain we've got layers

183
00:07:28,870 --> 00:07:26,319
layers that represent an ancient seabed

184
00:07:30,390 --> 00:07:28,880
layers in an ancient ocean that existed

185
00:07:34,230 --> 00:07:30,400
in the appalachian region

186
00:07:35,510 --> 00:07:34,240
some 350 million years ago

187
00:07:37,350 --> 00:07:35,520
gradually

188
00:07:39,589 --> 00:07:37,360

sand and sediments

189

00:07:41,510 --> 00:07:39,599

fell out of that ocean and formed the

190

00:07:43,670 --> 00:07:41,520

seabed

191

00:07:44,390 --> 00:07:43,680

some of the sediments

192

00:07:45,830 --> 00:07:44,400

were

193

00:07:52,550 --> 00:07:45,840

the

194

00:07:54,950 --> 00:07:52,560

creatures called foraminifera

195

00:07:57,990 --> 00:07:54,960

the the tests of foraminifera are

196

00:07:59,350 --> 00:07:58,000

calcite calcium carbonate and in this

197

00:08:01,589 --> 00:07:59,360

ancient ocean

198

00:08:03,589 --> 00:08:01,599

these organisms lived and died and their

199

00:08:05,510 --> 00:08:03,599

their tests gradually sedimented onto

200

00:08:07,589 --> 00:08:05,520

the seafloor

201
00:08:10,390 --> 00:08:07,599
and with time

202
00:08:13,350 --> 00:08:10,400
that sea floor underwent changes in

203
00:08:16,150 --> 00:08:13,360
temperature and pressure gradually

204
00:08:19,670 --> 00:08:16,160
transforming that

205
00:08:22,869 --> 00:08:19,680
that evidence of life in the past

206
00:08:24,869 --> 00:08:22,879
into limestone and eventually into this

207
00:08:26,469 --> 00:08:24,879
rock that we know and love and call

208
00:08:30,390 --> 00:08:26,479
marble

209
00:08:32,389 --> 00:08:30,400
that just looking at it

210
00:08:34,550 --> 00:08:32,399
you don't see any

211
00:08:36,630 --> 00:08:34,560
any sign of

212
00:08:39,269 --> 00:08:36,640
those complex organisms the complex

213
00:08:41,990 --> 00:08:39,279

tests of the four amino

214

00:08:44,470 --> 00:08:42,000

you have no direct evidence

215

00:08:47,430 --> 00:08:44,480

just by examining it that that this

216

00:08:49,350 --> 00:08:47,440

tells a story of life in an ancient

217

00:08:51,670 --> 00:08:49,360

ocean

218

00:08:53,910 --> 00:08:51,680

and yet to the trained eye

219

00:08:56,310 --> 00:08:53,920

through our study of life on earth

220

00:08:58,630 --> 00:08:56,320

through our understanding of

221

00:09:00,790 --> 00:08:58,640

biology and biological processes on our

222

00:09:01,590 --> 00:09:00,800

home planet we've come to appreciate

223

00:09:03,110 --> 00:09:01,600

that

224

00:09:05,910 --> 00:09:03,120

for the most part

225

00:09:07,670 --> 00:09:05,920

when we find this stone called marble on

226
00:09:10,550 --> 00:09:07,680
earth

227
00:09:13,350 --> 00:09:10,560
it tells a story of past life on our

228
00:09:16,550 --> 00:09:15,190
so what if we were to go to a planet

229
00:09:21,030 --> 00:09:16,560
like this

230
00:09:22,870 --> 00:09:21,040
and examine rocks

231
00:09:24,630 --> 00:09:22,880
like these

232
00:09:25,910 --> 00:09:24,640
a landscape

233
00:09:28,949 --> 00:09:25,920
showing

234
00:09:31,509 --> 00:09:28,959
dotted with ancient stream beds

235
00:09:34,949 --> 00:09:31,519
what if our curiosity rover

236
00:09:37,670 --> 00:09:34,959
were to rove up and nestle up against

237
00:09:39,670 --> 00:09:37,680
a nice big block of marble

238
00:09:42,949 --> 00:09:39,680

what would we conclude

239

00:09:44,470 --> 00:09:42,959

about that as a sign of past life on

240

00:09:46,630 --> 00:09:44,480

mars

241

00:09:48,389 --> 00:09:46,640

the answer is frankly we don't know

242

00:09:49,910 --> 00:09:48,399

that's part of the challenge

243

00:09:52,310 --> 00:09:49,920

trying to figure out both the the

244

00:09:53,509 --> 00:09:52,320

context and the formation and the

245

00:09:56,070 --> 00:09:53,519

history

246

00:09:58,310 --> 00:09:56,080

of a geological region on a world like

247

00:10:01,990 --> 00:09:58,320

mars and the adventure is just beginning

248

00:10:04,870 --> 00:10:02,000

who knows we may someday find

249

00:10:09,030 --> 00:10:04,880

rocks like marble or perhaps even more

250

00:10:12,949 --> 00:10:10,949

but as much as i love the planet mars

251
00:10:15,590 --> 00:10:12,959
and our search for life on mars for the

252
00:10:17,350 --> 00:10:15,600
most part we are looking for

253
00:10:19,990 --> 00:10:17,360
life in the past we are looking for

254
00:10:22,069 --> 00:10:20,000
evidence of life in the rock record on

255
00:10:24,230 --> 00:10:22,079
mars

256
00:10:26,949 --> 00:10:24,240
i want to find living life life that is

257
00:10:30,310 --> 00:10:26,959
alive today life that is living in an

258
00:10:32,710 --> 00:10:30,320
environment that is habitable today

259
00:10:35,269 --> 00:10:32,720
coupled with that

260
00:10:36,790 --> 00:10:35,279
i want to explore worlds

261
00:10:38,470 --> 00:10:36,800
where we think

262
00:10:42,550 --> 00:10:38,480
life may have gone

263
00:10:45,030 --> 00:10:42,560

undergone a second independent origin

264

00:10:47,509 --> 00:10:45,040

from life on earth

265

00:10:50,550 --> 00:10:47,519

probing this question of is the origin

266

00:10:52,550 --> 00:10:50,560

of life easy or is it hard

267

00:10:54,470 --> 00:10:52,560

and on mars there are some confusing

268

00:10:55,829 --> 00:10:54,480

components there you see

269

00:10:58,230 --> 00:10:55,839

early on in the history of the solar

270

00:11:00,630 --> 00:10:58,240

system mars and the earth traded

271

00:11:02,870 --> 00:11:00,640

material back and forth and in fact it's

272

00:11:05,670 --> 00:11:02,880

it continues into the modern day

273

00:11:07,430 --> 00:11:05,680

and so if we were to go to mars

274

00:11:09,430 --> 00:11:07,440

and find

275

00:11:12,069 --> 00:11:09,440

a fossil well first of all we would have

276

00:11:15,269 --> 00:11:12,079

a a hard time

277

00:11:17,030 --> 00:11:15,279

discerning the biochemistry of a fossil

278

00:11:19,670 --> 00:11:17,040

but even if we were to go to mars and

279

00:11:22,790 --> 00:11:19,680

find living life and discover that it

280

00:11:25,110 --> 00:11:22,800

was based on dna and rna and proteins

281

00:11:26,790 --> 00:11:25,120

we would then have a challenge of

282

00:11:29,430 --> 00:11:26,800

figuring out whether or not

283

00:11:30,949 --> 00:11:29,440

that life was related to the tree of

284

00:11:32,710 --> 00:11:30,959

life here on earth

285

00:11:34,310 --> 00:11:32,720

or whether or not it represented a

286

00:11:36,389 --> 00:11:34,320

second origin

287

00:11:39,030 --> 00:11:36,399

because of this this transfer of

288

00:11:40,790 --> 00:11:39,040

material back and forth

289

00:11:42,949 --> 00:11:40,800

this comes to that issue of

290

00:11:44,550 --> 00:11:42,959

of the tree of life here on earth

291

00:11:46,790 --> 00:11:44,560

our tree of life has changed

292

00:11:48,310 --> 00:11:46,800

dramatically over the time period in

293

00:11:49,190 --> 00:11:48,320

which we've been exploring the solar

294

00:11:51,030 --> 00:11:49,200

system

295

00:11:53,269 --> 00:11:51,040

just some 50 to 60 years ago if you

296

00:11:55,750 --> 00:11:53,279

mentioned the tree of life this is the

297

00:11:56,790 --> 00:11:55,760

image that would come to mind an image

298

00:12:00,470 --> 00:11:56,800

of

299

00:12:03,430 --> 00:12:00,480

neanderthals not too far away

300

00:12:05,350 --> 00:12:03,440

in evolutionary timeline from dinosaurs

301
00:12:08,310 --> 00:12:05,360
and other large creatures

302
00:12:10,790 --> 00:12:08,320
but we now know that the tree of life

303
00:12:13,590 --> 00:12:10,800
that we once conceived of is just

304
00:12:16,949 --> 00:12:13,600
the tiniest of branches

305
00:12:19,590 --> 00:12:16,959
on a tree of life that is dominated

306
00:12:22,790 --> 00:12:19,600
by microbial life forms

307
00:12:25,750 --> 00:12:22,800
we are just that tiniest little twig

308
00:12:29,509 --> 00:12:25,760
in this beautiful tree of life with

309
00:12:31,670 --> 00:12:29,519
archaea bacteria and eukaryotes most of

310
00:12:34,550 --> 00:12:31,680
which are single-celled

311
00:12:37,110 --> 00:12:34,560
microbial organisms

312
00:12:38,870 --> 00:12:37,120
so might there be a second tree of life

313
00:12:42,150 --> 00:12:38,880

out there in our solar system

314

00:12:44,470 --> 00:12:42,160

could there be a forest of trees of life

315

00:12:46,949 --> 00:12:44,480

in our solar system and beyond

316

00:12:49,430 --> 00:12:46,959

to probe that question

317

00:12:51,590 --> 00:12:49,440

i think we need to explore these ocean

318

00:12:53,030 --> 00:12:51,600

worlds of the outer solar system

319

00:12:54,550 --> 00:12:53,040

shown here

320

00:12:56,470 --> 00:12:54,560

is a portrait

321

00:12:59,110 --> 00:12:56,480

of the ocean worlds of our solar system

322

00:13:01,110 --> 00:12:59,120

at the center of course is the earth

323

00:13:02,470 --> 00:13:01,120

and around the earth i've placed europa

324

00:13:05,269 --> 00:13:02,480

ganymede

325

00:13:08,069 --> 00:13:05,279

and callisto three moons of jupiter

326

00:13:11,670 --> 00:13:08,079

enceladus and and titan two moons of

327

00:13:12,710 --> 00:13:11,680

saturn and even neptune's curious moon

328

00:13:13,910 --> 00:13:12,720

triton

329

00:13:16,389 --> 00:13:13,920

we think

330

00:13:17,910 --> 00:13:16,399

could possibly harbor

331

00:13:19,430 --> 00:13:17,920

an ocean

332

00:13:20,790 --> 00:13:19,440

in that case it would be liquid water

333

00:13:21,910 --> 00:13:20,800

mixed with ammonia and a few other

334

00:13:23,670 --> 00:13:21,920

things

335

00:13:26,069 --> 00:13:23,680

but these moons of the outer solar

336

00:13:28,470 --> 00:13:26,079

system are covered in ice and beneath

337

00:13:31,350 --> 00:13:28,480

their icy shells we have good reason to

338

00:13:34,629 --> 00:13:31,360

believe that vast quantities of liquid

339

00:13:36,629 --> 00:13:34,639

water are there today and may have

340

00:13:39,350 --> 00:13:36,639

persisted for much of the history of the

341

00:13:43,030 --> 00:13:41,110

this information this knowledge is

342

00:13:44,470 --> 00:13:43,040

really transforming our understanding of

343

00:13:46,550 --> 00:13:44,480

what it takes for a world to be

344

00:13:49,189 --> 00:13:46,560

habitable in the early days of planetary

345

00:13:52,870 --> 00:13:49,199

science and astronomy

346

00:13:55,910 --> 00:13:52,880

the idea of a habitable zone was defined

347

00:13:58,470 --> 00:13:55,920

largely by the need to be at just

348

00:14:00,069 --> 00:13:58,480

the right distance from your parent star

349

00:14:01,110 --> 00:14:00,079

such that you had enough energy to

350

00:14:03,750 --> 00:14:01,120

maintain

351

00:14:06,230 --> 00:14:03,760

a liquid water ocean on the surface in

352

00:14:09,030 --> 00:14:06,240

contact with an atmosphere

353

00:14:11,189 --> 00:14:09,040

and and that ocean could cycle with a

354

00:14:12,790 --> 00:14:11,199

sea floor and and the atmosphere and so

355

00:14:14,629 --> 00:14:12,800

we had this sort of goldilocks scenario

356

00:14:16,949 --> 00:14:14,639

where if you're at the earth sun

357

00:14:18,870 --> 00:14:16,959

distance you could maintain a liquid

358

00:14:21,430 --> 00:14:18,880

water ocean on the surface

359

00:14:23,829 --> 00:14:21,440

if you got too close you got too hot

360

00:14:25,829 --> 00:14:23,839

like venus and you could not sustain an

361

00:14:28,470 --> 00:14:25,839

ocean if you got too far away you got

362

00:14:30,310 --> 00:14:28,480

too cold and you could not sustain an

363

00:14:33,509 --> 00:14:30,320

ocean

364

00:14:36,470 --> 00:14:33,519

solar system are telling us is that this

365

00:14:38,629 --> 00:14:36,480

is kind of an old goldilocks

366

00:14:40,949 --> 00:14:38,639

there's a new goldilocks in town and

367

00:14:41,910 --> 00:14:40,959

it's a goldilocks that is

368

00:14:43,829 --> 00:14:41,920

not

369

00:14:46,069 --> 00:14:43,839

mediated by distance from your parent

370

00:14:48,389 --> 00:14:46,079

star and the energy that you get from

371

00:14:51,670 --> 00:14:48,399

your parent star instead it's a

372

00:14:55,350 --> 00:14:51,680

goldilocks zone for habitability that is

373

00:14:57,670 --> 00:14:55,360

mediated by tidal energy dissipation

374

00:15:00,069 --> 00:14:57,680

and there's no better example for this

375

00:15:02,230 --> 00:15:00,079

kind of energy dynamic than jupiter's

376

00:15:04,870 --> 00:15:02,240

moon io shown here

377

00:15:06,310 --> 00:15:04,880

and what you're seeing on io in that

378

00:15:09,430 --> 00:15:06,320

northern region

379

00:15:12,870 --> 00:15:09,440

is a volcanic eruption

380

00:15:15,590 --> 00:15:12,880

io is the most volcanically active body

381

00:15:17,990 --> 00:15:15,600

in our solar system more volcanically

382

00:15:20,790 --> 00:15:18,000

active than the earth

383

00:15:23,350 --> 00:15:20,800

and it is so volcanically active

384

00:15:24,629 --> 00:15:23,360

because of the tidal tug and pole that

385

00:15:27,269 --> 00:15:24,639

it experiences

386

00:15:29,990 --> 00:15:27,279

as it orbits jupiter in its slightly

387

00:15:32,470 --> 00:15:30,000

elliptical orbit

388

00:15:33,749 --> 00:15:32,480

so the jovian system the large moons of

389

00:15:35,430 --> 00:15:33,759

jupiter

390

00:15:37,910 --> 00:15:35,440

provide us with this sort of new

391

00:15:40,230 --> 00:15:37,920

goldilocks for habitability

392

00:15:43,269 --> 00:15:40,240

where io is kind of like venus io has

393

00:15:45,749 --> 00:15:43,279

too much energy just being dissipated io

394

00:15:48,629 --> 00:15:45,759

lost any water that it once had the

395

00:15:51,430 --> 00:15:48,639

yellows the reds the whites that you see

396

00:15:54,550 --> 00:15:51,440

those are all various forms of sulfur

397

00:15:56,389 --> 00:15:54,560

from the volcanic eruptions

398

00:15:57,590 --> 00:15:56,399

at the farther reaches you've got

399

00:16:01,670 --> 00:15:57,600

callisto

400

00:16:03,749 --> 00:16:01,680

though we think it has an ocean

401
00:16:06,230 --> 00:16:03,759
callisto's ocean is trapped beneath a

402
00:16:08,310 --> 00:16:06,240
very thick layer of ice and that layer

403
00:16:10,629 --> 00:16:08,320
of ice is quite old as evidenced by all

404
00:16:13,269 --> 00:16:10,639
the the pock marks on the surface ice of

405
00:16:15,749 --> 00:16:13,279
callisto all of those little pock marks

406
00:16:18,069 --> 00:16:15,759
are craters

407
00:16:20,550 --> 00:16:18,079
but in the middle

408
00:16:22,870 --> 00:16:20,560
in this sort of new goldilocks zone for

409
00:16:25,189 --> 00:16:22,880
habitability we've got europa and

410
00:16:26,069 --> 00:16:25,199
ganymede and europa in particular we

411
00:16:28,710 --> 00:16:26,079
think

412
00:16:30,629 --> 00:16:28,720
might satisfy the conditions for

413
00:16:32,389 --> 00:16:30,639

habitability as we've come to know and

414

00:16:34,710 --> 00:16:32,399

love it for for life on earth and that

415

00:16:37,749 --> 00:16:34,720

is needing liquid water

416

00:16:39,749 --> 00:16:37,759

access to the building blocks of life

417

00:16:43,430 --> 00:16:39,759

and some energy some chemical

418

00:16:45,749 --> 00:16:43,440

disequilibrium that life can harness

419

00:16:47,269 --> 00:16:45,759

and again part of why these worlds are

420

00:16:49,189 --> 00:16:47,279

so compelling in our search for life

421

00:16:51,829 --> 00:16:49,199

elsewhere is that if we've learned

422

00:16:53,509 --> 00:16:51,839

anything from life on earth it's that

423

00:16:55,269 --> 00:16:53,519

where you find liquid water you

424

00:16:57,590 --> 00:16:55,279

generally find life

425

00:16:59,910 --> 00:16:57,600

from life in these extreme environments

426
00:17:01,509 --> 00:16:59,920
from hydrothermal vents hot springs in

427
00:17:04,549 --> 00:17:01,519
the rift valley

428
00:17:06,470 --> 00:17:04,559
the coldest regions of antarctica

429
00:17:09,189 --> 00:17:06,480
where there's liquid water even if it's

430
00:17:09,990 --> 00:17:09,199
transient life somehow somehow finds a

431
00:17:12,230 --> 00:17:10,000
way

432
00:17:12,949 --> 00:17:12,240
from life in extreme environments

433
00:17:16,069 --> 00:17:12,959
to

434
00:17:18,470 --> 00:17:16,079
life of extreme lifestyles

435
00:17:21,189 --> 00:17:18,480
life on earth all depends on liquid

436
00:17:24,549 --> 00:17:21,199
water and and this also helps to

437
00:17:26,549 --> 00:17:24,559
underscore this issue of

438
00:17:28,549 --> 00:17:26,559

searching for a different biochemistry a

439

00:17:29,750 --> 00:17:28,559

different tree of life

440

00:17:31,270 --> 00:17:29,760

um

441

00:17:33,510 --> 00:17:31,280

for all of the

442

00:17:35,669 --> 00:17:33,520

the the crazy life forms from the

443

00:17:36,870 --> 00:17:35,679

tiniest microbe to the craziest rock

444

00:17:39,669 --> 00:17:36,880

star

445

00:17:41,270 --> 00:17:39,679

we are all not only connected by the dna

446

00:17:43,590 --> 00:17:41,280

tree of life

447

00:17:45,909 --> 00:17:43,600

but we're also connected by the same

448

00:17:49,029 --> 00:17:45,919

fundamental biochemistry of dna rna

449

00:17:50,789 --> 00:17:49,039

proteins and even atp

450

00:17:52,390 --> 00:17:50,799

is there a different way of getting the

451
00:17:53,750 --> 00:17:52,400
business of life done is there a

452
00:17:54,710 --> 00:17:53,760
different way

453
00:18:00,150 --> 00:17:54,720
to

454
00:18:02,390 --> 00:18:00,160
don't know

455
00:18:04,310 --> 00:18:02,400
but when it comes to these oceans how do

456
00:18:05,830 --> 00:18:04,320
we think we know they exist well it all

457
00:18:07,990 --> 00:18:05,840
begins of course

458
00:18:09,909 --> 00:18:08,000
with our exploration

459
00:18:11,190 --> 00:18:09,919
and here at jpl

460
00:18:13,110 --> 00:18:11,200
uh

461
00:18:15,750 --> 00:18:13,120
we've been at the forefront of exploring

462
00:18:17,270 --> 00:18:15,760
these worlds for europa and enceladus

463
00:18:19,990 --> 00:18:17,280

the champions of that exploration are

464

00:18:21,830 --> 00:18:20,000

the cassini spacecraft shown at left and

465

00:18:22,630 --> 00:18:21,840

the galileo spacecraft shown at upper

466

00:18:25,110 --> 00:18:22,640

right

467

00:18:26,549 --> 00:18:25,120

and of course these these spacecraft

468

00:18:28,549 --> 00:18:26,559

would be useless if we couldn't actually

469

00:18:30,470 --> 00:18:28,559

get the signal back and the deep space

470

00:18:33,190 --> 00:18:30,480

network shown at the bottom right is

471

00:18:35,590 --> 00:18:33,200

essential in getting that signal back

472

00:18:38,710 --> 00:18:35,600

and it's through these spacecraft

473

00:18:41,669 --> 00:18:38,720

that we've managed to reveal the beauty

474

00:18:43,510 --> 00:18:41,679

of worlds like saturn and i'll begin

475

00:18:46,470 --> 00:18:43,520

with a little bit of a description of

476
00:18:47,669 --> 00:18:46,480
why we think we know an ocean

477
00:18:52,390 --> 00:18:47,679
exists

478
00:18:57,190 --> 00:18:54,549
here is enceladus

479
00:18:58,710 --> 00:18:57,200
with saturn and saturn's rings

480
00:19:00,310 --> 00:18:58,720
in the background

481
00:19:02,950 --> 00:19:00,320
enceladus is a curious moon it's only

482
00:19:05,990 --> 00:19:02,960
about 500 kilometers in diameter

483
00:19:07,350 --> 00:19:06,000
uh not too much bigger uh in span than

484
00:19:09,190 --> 00:19:07,360
than sort of the uh

485
00:19:10,630 --> 00:19:09,200
the great lakes region

486
00:19:12,950 --> 00:19:10,640
but you notice something immediately

487
00:19:15,029 --> 00:19:12,960
when you take a closer look at enceladus

488
00:19:17,029 --> 00:19:15,039

the northern hemisphere is dotted with

489

00:19:19,110 --> 00:19:17,039

all these craters whereas the southern

490

00:19:20,950 --> 00:19:19,120

hemisphere

491

00:19:24,470 --> 00:19:20,960

they're essentially no craters but you

492

00:19:27,110 --> 00:19:24,480

have these tiger stripe fractures

493

00:19:28,470 --> 00:19:27,120

the surface is telling us the story

494

00:19:30,150 --> 00:19:28,480

in the north

495

00:19:32,390 --> 00:19:30,160

those craters have been around for a

496

00:19:34,070 --> 00:19:32,400

long time in the south the absence of

497

00:19:37,190 --> 00:19:34,080

craters tells us that this is a fresh

498

00:19:42,070 --> 00:19:39,590

and these fractures which we've now come

499

00:19:43,830 --> 00:19:42,080

to call the tiger stripes if we take a

500

00:19:46,390 --> 00:19:43,840

closer look

501
00:19:49,510 --> 00:19:46,400
and get just the right angle as the

502
00:19:50,630 --> 00:19:49,520
cassini spacecraft has managed to uh

503
00:19:52,070 --> 00:19:50,640
to enable

504
00:19:54,549 --> 00:19:52,080
we get what i would argue is one of the

505
00:19:56,150 --> 00:19:54,559
most beautiful images

506
00:20:00,870 --> 00:19:56,160
ever collected in our solar system

507
00:20:03,270 --> 00:20:00,880
exploration an image of plumes erupting

508
00:20:05,510 --> 00:20:03,280
out of fractures from the south polar

509
00:20:06,390 --> 00:20:05,520
terrain of enceladus

510
00:20:08,710 --> 00:20:06,400
um

511
00:20:11,350 --> 00:20:08,720
you know normally when i give this talk

512
00:20:14,070 --> 00:20:11,360
audiences ooh and ah at the fractures

513
00:20:16,950 --> 00:20:14,080

um clearly this is a a uh

514

00:20:19,830 --> 00:20:16,960

the the jpl audience has seen uh uh

515

00:20:21,430 --> 00:20:19,840

enceladus all over

516

00:20:23,029 --> 00:20:21,440

of course part of what's exciting is not

517

00:20:23,990 --> 00:20:23,039

only can you see the plumes but you can

518

00:20:27,190 --> 00:20:24,000

see

519

00:20:28,870 --> 00:20:27,200

fresh snow or fresh uh deposits along

520

00:20:30,390 --> 00:20:28,880

some of these fractures

521

00:20:32,830 --> 00:20:30,400

and zooming in

522

00:20:36,310 --> 00:20:32,840

one of the the highest

523

00:20:38,310 --> 00:20:36,320

resolution mosaics of enceladus

524

00:20:40,470 --> 00:20:38,320

shows these fractures up close where

525

00:20:43,029 --> 00:20:40,480

these boulders along some of the

526
00:20:44,630 --> 00:20:43,039
fractures are just a few meters in

527
00:20:45,909 --> 00:20:44,640
diameter

528
00:20:47,590 --> 00:20:45,919
and part of

529
00:20:49,750 --> 00:20:47,600
what of course we want to accomplish

530
00:20:52,070 --> 00:20:49,760
with our future of exploration

531
00:20:53,350 --> 00:20:52,080
is developing and designing the robotic

532
00:20:56,310 --> 00:20:53,360
spacecraft

533
00:20:58,230 --> 00:20:56,320
that will dive into these fractures

534
00:21:00,630 --> 00:20:58,240
down into these regions where we have

535
00:21:03,110 --> 00:21:00,640
good knowledge of plumes coming up

536
00:21:04,950 --> 00:21:03,120
connecting to an ocean

537
00:21:07,750 --> 00:21:04,960
below

538
00:21:09,750 --> 00:21:07,760

the sunlight here gives you some

539

00:21:12,310 --> 00:21:09,760

view into the deepest regions of some of

540

00:21:15,110 --> 00:21:12,320

these cracks and in a few of these

541

00:21:18,230 --> 00:21:15,120

pockets are where those fractures

542

00:21:20,070 --> 00:21:18,240

are where those plumes are coming out

543

00:21:22,149 --> 00:21:20,080

so on enceladus we've got this curious

544

00:21:23,510 --> 00:21:22,159

situation where the ocean is literally

545

00:21:26,070 --> 00:21:23,520

jumping out at us

546

00:21:28,710 --> 00:21:26,080

the the cassini spacecraft has flown to

547

00:21:32,950 --> 00:21:28,720

within 25 kilometers of enceladus

548

00:21:35,110 --> 00:21:32,960

surface it's sampled what we think is

549

00:21:37,190 --> 00:21:35,120

material derived from the ocean

550

00:21:39,590 --> 00:21:37,200

determined that there are salts in that

551
00:21:41,350 --> 00:21:39,600
water that there are organics in that

552
00:21:44,549 --> 00:21:41,360
water that there are compounds like

553
00:21:46,390 --> 00:21:44,559
carbon dioxide and methane in that water

554
00:21:50,070 --> 00:21:46,400
which could of course be quite useful

555
00:21:52,710 --> 00:21:50,080
from an astrobiological standpoint

556
00:21:56,390 --> 00:21:52,720
now at europa the situation is quite a

557
00:21:59,110 --> 00:21:57,669
enceladus

558
00:22:01,430 --> 00:21:59,120
we can see

559
00:22:03,750 --> 00:22:01,440
is active today

560
00:22:06,789 --> 00:22:03,760
europa the evidence for activity the

561
00:22:09,669 --> 00:22:06,799
evidence for plumes on europa is still

562
00:22:11,750 --> 00:22:09,679
under study and is a bit tenuous

563
00:22:14,789 --> 00:22:11,760

but europa is a much larger world it's

564

00:22:17,270 --> 00:22:14,799

about 3 000 kilometers in diameter and

565

00:22:20,470 --> 00:22:17,280

any plumes that we would expect to erupt

566

00:22:22,549 --> 00:22:20,480

on on europa would not go nearly as high

567

00:22:26,149 --> 00:22:22,559

as the plumes on on enceladus which

568

00:22:27,590 --> 00:22:26,159

extend outward for some 500 kilometers

569

00:22:29,029 --> 00:22:27,600

but nevertheless we think that the

570

00:22:30,470 --> 00:22:29,039

fracturing that we're seeing in this

571

00:22:33,510 --> 00:22:30,480

surface ice

572

00:22:36,149 --> 00:22:33,520

is in part caused by the tidal energy

573

00:22:38,950 --> 00:22:36,159

dissipation uh in the past perhaps in

574

00:22:41,909 --> 00:22:38,960

the present creating these these

575

00:22:44,310 --> 00:22:41,919

fractures and lineaments

576

00:22:46,310 --> 00:22:44,320

this ocean is of course maintained

577

00:22:47,990 --> 00:22:46,320

through this tidal inter energy

578

00:22:50,470 --> 00:22:48,000

interaction europa is about the size of

579

00:22:54,070 --> 00:22:50,480

our own moon but orbits jupiter which is

580

00:22:57,590 --> 00:22:54,080

some 318 times as massive as the earth

581

00:23:00,630 --> 00:22:57,600

and so the liquid water ocean on europa

582

00:23:01,669 --> 00:23:00,640

is about 100 kilometers deep by our best

583

00:23:03,590 --> 00:23:01,679

estimates

584

00:23:06,870 --> 00:23:03,600

and if you do the math it turns out that

585

00:23:08,390 --> 00:23:06,880

europa's ocean contains roughly two to

586

00:23:10,710 --> 00:23:08,400

three times the volume

587

00:23:14,070 --> 00:23:10,720

of all the liquid water in the oceans

588

00:23:15,909 --> 00:23:14,080

seas and lakes on earth

589

00:23:17,830 --> 00:23:15,919

showing that pictorially

590

00:23:19,350 --> 00:23:17,840

here's an image

591

00:23:20,310 --> 00:23:19,360

that some colleagues at woods hole put

592

00:23:22,950 --> 00:23:20,320

together

593

00:23:25,110 --> 00:23:22,960

showing all of the water on earth rolled

594

00:23:25,990 --> 00:23:25,120

up into a blue

595

00:23:30,230 --> 00:23:26,000

ball

596

00:23:31,350 --> 00:23:30,240

that blue marble is all of earth's water

597

00:23:32,870 --> 00:23:31,360

now the first thing that you should

598

00:23:34,390 --> 00:23:32,880

appreciate when you see this image is

599

00:23:37,350 --> 00:23:34,400

that of course we need to take care of

600

00:23:40,630 --> 00:23:37,360

our home planet and protect the uh the

601
00:23:42,870 --> 00:23:40,640
scarce water that we have here

602
00:23:44,470 --> 00:23:42,880
if you do the same calculation

603
00:23:46,710 --> 00:23:44,480
for europa

604
00:23:48,870 --> 00:23:46,720
you end up with a blue marble that

605
00:23:50,710 --> 00:23:48,880
contains about two to three times the

606
00:23:52,470 --> 00:23:50,720
volume of all the liquid water found

607
00:23:54,950 --> 00:23:52,480
here

608
00:23:58,149 --> 00:23:54,960
now as i mentioned on europa we don't

609
00:23:59,990 --> 00:23:58,159
have the smoking gun of plumes erupting

610
00:24:01,029 --> 00:24:00,000
we haven't seen any new fractures

611
00:24:03,590 --> 00:24:01,039
forming

612
00:24:05,990 --> 00:24:03,600
that i would argue is largely due to

613
00:24:07,830 --> 00:24:06,000

limitations in in our data limitations

614

00:24:11,510 --> 00:24:07,840

in and what's been returned by the

615

00:24:13,350 --> 00:24:11,520

voyager and galileo spacecraft

616

00:24:15,510 --> 00:24:13,360

but we have very good reason to believe

617

00:24:18,390 --> 00:24:15,520

that that ocean exists

618

00:24:22,070 --> 00:24:18,400

and the discovery of this ocean

619

00:24:23,510 --> 00:24:22,080

i like to break into three easy pieces

620

00:24:27,350 --> 00:24:23,520

the first piece

621

00:24:31,350 --> 00:24:29,590

much of what i do here at jpl is

622

00:24:35,990 --> 00:24:31,360

spectroscopy

623

00:24:37,909 --> 00:24:36,000

is basically a scientist fancy word for

624

00:24:39,909 --> 00:24:37,919

studying rainbows

625

00:24:41,669 --> 00:24:39,919

if you take a rainbow

626
00:24:43,669 --> 00:24:41,679
and turn it on its side

627
00:24:44,789 --> 00:24:43,679
and look at the intensity of the

628
00:24:47,110 --> 00:24:44,799
different colors the different

629
00:24:48,070 --> 00:24:47,120
wavelengths

630
00:24:49,830 --> 00:24:48,080
that

631
00:24:51,669 --> 00:24:49,840
is essentially a spectrum

632
00:24:54,149 --> 00:24:51,679
and by looking at the variations and

633
00:24:55,590 --> 00:24:54,159
intensity of the various colors

634
00:24:56,870 --> 00:24:55,600
you can reveal

635
00:24:58,390 --> 00:24:56,880
important information about the

636
00:25:00,149 --> 00:24:58,400
composition of

637
00:25:01,909 --> 00:25:00,159
the water and the atmosphere the other

638
00:25:04,230 --> 00:25:01,919

compounds in our atmosphere the

639

00:25:06,230 --> 00:25:04,240

composition of our sun

640

00:25:08,630 --> 00:25:06,240

and so spectroscopy is an incredibly

641

00:25:10,789 --> 00:25:08,640

useful tool for getting at surface and

642

00:25:12,470 --> 00:25:10,799

gaseous compositions and that's exactly

643

00:25:16,230 --> 00:25:12,480

what astronomers did back in the late

644

00:25:18,310 --> 00:25:16,240

1950s and 1960s they turned telescopes

645

00:25:19,990 --> 00:25:18,320

to the jovian system

646

00:25:21,510 --> 00:25:20,000

and measured

647

00:25:22,470 --> 00:25:21,520

the surface of europa and what they

648

00:25:23,510 --> 00:25:22,480

found

649

00:25:25,750 --> 00:25:23,520

is this

650

00:25:26,950 --> 00:25:25,760

an infrared spectrum an infrared rainbow

651

00:25:30,230 --> 00:25:26,960

turned on its side creating this

652

00:25:32,549 --> 00:25:30,240

spectrum with a highly diagnostic

653

00:25:34,710 --> 00:25:32,559

stepwise function of with absorptions at

654

00:25:38,470 --> 00:25:34,720

one and a half and two microns

655

00:25:40,310 --> 00:25:38,480

that is indicative of water ice

656

00:25:42,549 --> 00:25:40,320

and so by making that rainbow connection

657

00:25:45,029 --> 00:25:42,559

by doing the spectroscopy

658

00:25:47,990 --> 00:25:45,039

of europa scientists were able to first

659

00:25:50,149 --> 00:25:48,000

discover that europa's surface

660

00:25:52,390 --> 00:25:50,159

is at least covered with water in the

661

00:25:54,870 --> 00:25:52,400

solid phase

662

00:25:57,669 --> 00:25:54,880

the second piece of the puzzle

663

00:25:58,950 --> 00:25:57,679

is to babysit a spacecraft

664

00:26:01,430 --> 00:25:58,960

and

665

00:26:02,390 --> 00:26:01,440

the spacecraft being babysat

666

00:26:05,350 --> 00:26:02,400

was

667

00:26:07,830 --> 00:26:05,360

galileo and the babysitter

668

00:26:10,149 --> 00:26:07,840

is the deep space network

669

00:26:12,390 --> 00:26:10,159

by carefully monitoring the position of

670

00:26:13,830 --> 00:26:12,400

the galileo spacecraft as it flew by

671

00:26:15,110 --> 00:26:13,840

europa

672

00:26:17,190 --> 00:26:15,120

the deep space network and the

673

00:26:19,269 --> 00:26:17,200

scientists working on

674

00:26:20,230 --> 00:26:19,279

tracking the spacecraft were able to

675

00:26:22,390 --> 00:26:20,240

measure

676
00:26:25,750 --> 00:26:22,400
the slightest of deviations due to

677
00:26:27,990 --> 00:26:25,760
variations in europa's gravity

678
00:26:29,830 --> 00:26:28,000
and through that determination which

679
00:26:32,149 --> 00:26:29,840
involves a lot of math

680
00:26:33,590 --> 00:26:32,159
that i won't go into tonight

681
00:26:37,029 --> 00:26:33,600
though i imagine some members of this

682
00:26:39,430 --> 00:26:37,039
audience would love to dive into this

683
00:26:41,190 --> 00:26:39,440
through careful analysis of the gravity

684
00:26:42,950 --> 00:26:41,200
perturbations that were experienced by

685
00:26:43,990 --> 00:26:42,960
the galileo spacecraft as it flew by

686
00:26:46,390 --> 00:26:44,000
europa

687
00:26:48,630 --> 00:26:46,400
and doing the gravity inversion for the

688
00:26:50,870 --> 00:26:48,640

moment of inertia

689

00:26:53,110 --> 00:26:50,880

that leads to

690

00:26:54,070 --> 00:26:53,120

an internal mass distribution or

691

00:26:56,710 --> 00:26:54,080

internal

692

00:26:59,909 --> 00:26:56,720

density distribution for europa where

693

00:27:03,029 --> 00:26:59,919

we've got an iron or an iron sulfur core

694

00:27:05,510 --> 00:27:03,039

a silicate or rocky mantle

695

00:27:08,070 --> 00:27:05,520

and then an outer layer a layer of

696

00:27:11,029 --> 00:27:08,080

roughly 100 to 200 kilometers

697

00:27:12,950 --> 00:27:11,039

of unit density material

698

00:27:14,870 --> 00:27:12,960

and the simplest explanation for that

699

00:27:18,149 --> 00:27:14,880

unit density material

700

00:27:19,990 --> 00:27:18,159

is water in either liquid or solid phase

701
00:27:21,669 --> 00:27:20,000
now the the gravity information is

702
00:27:23,590 --> 00:27:21,679
insufficient to reveal the density

703
00:27:25,430 --> 00:27:23,600
difference between solid and liquid

704
00:27:27,830 --> 00:27:25,440
water and so

705
00:27:30,310 --> 00:27:27,840
the the second piece of the puzzle

706
00:27:32,310 --> 00:27:30,320
leaves us with this picture of europa

707
00:27:34,630 --> 00:27:32,320
where we've got a lot of water but we

708
00:27:36,230 --> 00:27:34,640
don't yet have an ocean

709
00:27:38,630 --> 00:27:36,240
to get to the ocean we need the final

710
00:27:40,149 --> 00:27:38,640
piece of the puzzle and that i like to

711
00:27:43,350 --> 00:27:40,159
make the analogy to

712
00:27:45,190 --> 00:27:43,360
adhering to airport security

713
00:27:47,269 --> 00:27:45,200

and uh

714

00:27:49,269 --> 00:27:47,279

my apologies for this fuzzy picture this

715

00:27:51,110 --> 00:27:49,279

is a picture that i took at at

716

00:27:53,430 --> 00:27:51,120

john f kennedy airport

717

00:27:55,990 --> 00:27:53,440

uh and i was trying not to get arrested

718

00:27:57,669 --> 00:27:56,000

so it's a it's a little bit blurry

719

00:27:59,350 --> 00:27:57,679

but so what happens when you walk

720

00:28:01,269 --> 00:27:59,360

through a metal detector at an airport

721

00:28:04,710 --> 00:28:01,279

what's happening is that you're walking

722

00:28:06,389 --> 00:28:04,720

through a time-varying magnetic field

723

00:28:08,950 --> 00:28:06,399

and if you've got a conductor in your

724

00:28:11,430 --> 00:28:08,960

pocket that time-varying magnetic field

725

00:28:13,590 --> 00:28:11,440

in that little doorway gives rise to

726

00:28:15,350 --> 00:28:13,600

induced electric currents

727

00:28:17,590 --> 00:28:15,360

in that conductor in your pocket and

728

00:28:19,990 --> 00:28:17,600

that those induced electric currents

729

00:28:21,669 --> 00:28:20,000

give rise to an induced magnetic field

730

00:28:22,789 --> 00:28:21,679

and within that little doorway are

731

00:28:25,269 --> 00:28:22,799

special

732

00:28:27,430 --> 00:28:25,279

detectors that are searching for

733

00:28:29,669 --> 00:28:27,440

that induced magnetic field and the

734

00:28:31,909 --> 00:28:29,679

alarm goes off

735

00:28:34,389 --> 00:28:31,919

well out at europa when the galileo

736

00:28:37,909 --> 00:28:34,399

spacecraft flew by europa

737

00:28:41,190 --> 00:28:37,919

the alarm essentially went off

738

00:28:43,430 --> 00:28:41,200

galileo had a fancy compass on board a

739

00:28:44,389 --> 00:28:43,440

magnetometer and that magnetometer was

740

00:28:45,510 --> 00:28:44,399

able to

741

00:28:48,230 --> 00:28:45,520

detect

742

00:28:50,950 --> 00:28:48,240

an induced magnetic field

743

00:28:52,149 --> 00:28:50,960

around europa a magnetic field that was

744

00:28:54,070 --> 00:28:52,159

not

745

00:28:57,350 --> 00:28:54,080

intrinsic to europa

746

00:29:00,070 --> 00:28:57,360

but which was being caused and mediated

747

00:29:01,350 --> 00:29:00,080

by jupiter's incredibly strong time

748

00:29:03,110 --> 00:29:01,360

varying field

749

00:29:05,190 --> 00:29:03,120

again a lot of math

750

00:29:07,669 --> 00:29:05,200

that i won't go into tonight but what

751
00:29:10,149 --> 00:29:07,679
this third piece of the puzzle leads to

752
00:29:11,669 --> 00:29:10,159
is that you need some near surface

753
00:29:13,190 --> 00:29:11,679
conducting layer

754
00:29:14,310 --> 00:29:13,200
analogous to the conductor in your

755
00:29:16,950 --> 00:29:14,320
pocket when you're walking through

756
00:29:19,110 --> 00:29:16,960
airport security you need some conductor

757
00:29:20,950 --> 00:29:19,120
in your pocket to create that induced

758
00:29:23,269 --> 00:29:20,960
magnetic field

759
00:29:25,190 --> 00:29:23,279
and the best explanation for that

760
00:29:28,710 --> 00:29:25,200
induced magnetic field

761
00:29:30,789 --> 00:29:28,720
is a salty liquid water layer near the

762
00:29:32,870 --> 00:29:30,799
surface of europa

763
00:29:35,110 --> 00:29:32,880

an iron core sure that's conductive but

764

00:29:36,710 --> 00:29:35,120

it's too far away from the spacecraft to

765

00:29:37,750 --> 00:29:36,720

explain the induced magnetic field

766

00:29:39,510 --> 00:29:37,760

signature

767

00:29:41,510 --> 00:29:39,520

those rocky silicates they're not

768

00:29:44,389 --> 00:29:41,520

conductive enough to explain

769

00:29:47,830 --> 00:29:44,399

that induced magnetic field signature

770

00:29:50,630 --> 00:29:47,840

ice even ice doped with salts still not

771

00:29:53,269 --> 00:29:50,640

conductive enough the best explanation

772

00:29:57,029 --> 00:29:53,279

for the induced magnetic field signature

773

00:29:59,990 --> 00:29:57,039

is this salty liquid water ocean

774

00:30:01,750 --> 00:30:00,000

overlaying by an ice shell of a few to

775

00:30:05,190 --> 00:30:01,760

maybe 10 or 15

776
00:30:09,830 --> 00:30:06,789
and here

777
00:30:11,029 --> 00:30:09,840
is one of the highest resolution mosaics

778
00:30:13,269 --> 00:30:11,039
that we have

779
00:30:15,110 --> 00:30:13,279
of the surface of europa

780
00:30:17,669 --> 00:30:15,120
this is the airplane

781
00:30:19,269 --> 00:30:17,679
view if you were able to look out

782
00:30:21,990 --> 00:30:19,279
across europa

783
00:30:23,909 --> 00:30:22,000
these ice cliffs with dark material that

784
00:30:26,389 --> 00:30:23,919
we know very little about

785
00:30:27,590 --> 00:30:26,399
jutting up from below fractures

786
00:30:29,990 --> 00:30:27,600
that

787
00:30:32,070 --> 00:30:30,000
perhaps have formed recently

788
00:30:34,389 --> 00:30:32,080

or perhaps they formed tens of millions

789

00:30:37,430 --> 00:30:34,399

of years ago at this point in time we

790

00:30:39,909 --> 00:30:37,440

just don't know and we don't know if

791

00:30:41,510 --> 00:30:39,919

some of this dark material is coming up

792

00:30:43,669 --> 00:30:41,520

from the ocean below

793

00:30:46,149 --> 00:30:43,679

if it tells us about the oceanic

794

00:30:47,029 --> 00:30:46,159

composition if it tells us

795

00:30:48,630 --> 00:30:47,039

about

796

00:30:50,470 --> 00:30:48,640

life forms living

797

00:30:53,590 --> 00:30:50,480

in that ocean below

798

00:30:55,190 --> 00:30:53,600

the galileo spacecraft left us with just

799

00:30:57,430 --> 00:30:55,200

enough information

800

00:30:59,509 --> 00:30:57,440

to feel confident about the presence of

801
00:31:01,590 --> 00:30:59,519
this global liquid water ocean

802
00:31:03,590 --> 00:31:01,600
but not enough information to know

803
00:31:06,870 --> 00:31:03,600
whether or not that ocean is in fact

804
00:31:11,029 --> 00:31:08,870
and that brings us back to earth and

805
00:31:13,190 --> 00:31:11,039
trying to understand some of these

806
00:31:14,549 --> 00:31:13,200
parameters some of the the constraints

807
00:31:17,990 --> 00:31:14,559
that we can place

808
00:31:20,630 --> 00:31:18,000
on habitability for life as we know it

809
00:31:22,389 --> 00:31:20,640
and life on earth is our guide for what

810
00:31:24,070 --> 00:31:22,399
it takes for a world to be habitable as

811
00:31:26,149 --> 00:31:24,080
i mentioned you need liquid water you

812
00:31:28,310 --> 00:31:26,159
need the elements for life and you need

813
00:31:30,710 --> 00:31:28,320

some form of energy

814

00:31:33,590 --> 00:31:30,720

and so what i'd like to do next is give

815

00:31:34,710 --> 00:31:33,600

you four short stories

816

00:31:38,230 --> 00:31:34,720

about

817

00:31:39,590 --> 00:31:38,240

life in extreme environments on earth

818

00:31:42,230 --> 00:31:39,600

first

819

00:31:43,830 --> 00:31:42,240

life in the cold then life in the deep

820

00:31:44,950 --> 00:31:43,840

and we'll work our way from the surface

821

00:31:49,110 --> 00:31:44,960

of the earth

822

00:31:51,669 --> 00:31:49,120

down to the deepest depths of our ocean

823

00:31:54,310 --> 00:31:51,679

the coldest place on earth is no

824

00:31:57,509 --> 00:31:54,320

challenge for life as we know it this is

825

00:32:03,190 --> 00:31:57,519

the dry valleys of antarctica

826

00:32:03,990 --> 00:32:03,200

we were working there back in in 2005

827

00:32:05,750 --> 00:32:04,000

this

828

00:32:07,830 --> 00:32:05,760

is a particular area called battleship

829

00:32:10,230 --> 00:32:07,840

promontory named in part because the

830

00:32:11,990 --> 00:32:10,240

early navy pilots who flew through there

831

00:32:15,350 --> 00:32:12,000

thought that that geological feature

832

00:32:16,870 --> 00:32:15,360

looked like a navy battleship

833

00:32:19,750 --> 00:32:16,880

we were there testing out

834

00:32:22,070 --> 00:32:19,760

instrumentation and studying life in the

835

00:32:24,549 --> 00:32:22,080

rocks of course around the perimeter of

836

00:32:26,070 --> 00:32:24,559

of antarctica there are penguins there

837

00:32:28,310 --> 00:32:26,080

are there are seals there are all sorts

838

00:32:29,669 --> 00:32:28,320

of other creatures but in the interior

839

00:32:31,750 --> 00:32:29,679

of antarctica

840

00:32:34,470 --> 00:32:31,760

there's no life except these tiniest of

841

00:32:36,149 --> 00:32:34,480

microbes that live in the rocks and some

842

00:32:39,190 --> 00:32:36,159

microbes which we think might live in

843

00:32:41,269 --> 00:32:39,200

the sub-glacial lakes

844

00:32:42,470 --> 00:32:41,279

so the reds the oranges the yellows that

845

00:32:46,070 --> 00:32:42,480

you see there

846

00:32:48,230 --> 00:32:46,080

those that patina is all caused by life

847

00:32:49,430 --> 00:32:48,240

living within the pore spaces of the

848

00:32:51,830 --> 00:32:49,440

rocks

849

00:32:53,269 --> 00:32:51,840

this gives you a nice view of

850

00:32:55,669 --> 00:32:53,279

one of these valleys now this is a bit

851
00:32:57,750 --> 00:32:55,679
deceiving here the

852
00:33:00,710 --> 00:32:57,760
it looks like this

853
00:33:02,470 --> 00:33:00,720
slope goes out into that valley but uh

854
00:33:04,549 --> 00:33:02,480
really if you were to walk

855
00:33:06,310 --> 00:33:04,559
uh to the edge there and look over this

856
00:33:08,710 --> 00:33:06,320
is what you would see

857
00:33:10,870 --> 00:33:08,720
this vast cliff

858
00:33:13,430 --> 00:33:10,880
and so here again those colors that you

859
00:33:16,070 --> 00:33:13,440
see those are all evidence of of life

860
00:33:17,830 --> 00:33:16,080
within in the rocks surviving keep in

861
00:33:20,230 --> 00:33:17,840
mind that antarctica is dark for half of

862
00:33:23,110 --> 00:33:20,240
the year it's incredibly cold incredibly

863
00:33:25,029 --> 00:33:23,120

dry and yet what life is doing

864

00:33:27,029 --> 00:33:25,039

is

865

00:33:30,149 --> 00:33:27,039

eking out a living in the tiniest of

866

00:33:33,029 --> 00:33:30,159

pore spaces between the sandstone grains

867

00:33:36,149 --> 00:33:33,039

so it seeks refuge it seeks shelter in

868

00:33:38,950 --> 00:33:36,159

those poor spaces and manages to use the

869

00:33:41,350 --> 00:33:38,960

available sunlight for part of the year

870

00:33:43,190 --> 00:33:41,360

and some of the water that that melts on

871

00:33:45,669 --> 00:33:43,200

occasion during the summer to then

872

00:33:47,590 --> 00:33:45,679

metabolize and grow and reproduce and to

873

00:33:49,029 --> 00:33:47,600

do photosynthesis

874

00:33:51,909 --> 00:33:49,039

and part of what we're doing is

875

00:33:53,990 --> 00:33:51,919

developing instrumentation to study

876
00:33:57,430 --> 00:33:54,000
these cryptoendolithic microbial

877
00:34:00,070 --> 00:33:57,440
communities that manage to to thrive

878
00:34:02,470 --> 00:34:00,080
just beneath the surface

879
00:34:04,389 --> 00:34:02,480
beneath that protected veneer

880
00:34:07,830 --> 00:34:04,399
of these sandstone rocks

881
00:34:10,470 --> 00:34:07,840
so in the coldest place on earth

882
00:34:13,990 --> 00:34:10,480
life has no problem

883
00:34:15,909 --> 00:34:14,000
but let's go to some place that is cold

884
00:34:18,710 --> 00:34:15,919
uh and dark

885
00:34:20,389 --> 00:34:18,720
and and wet um

886
00:34:21,909 --> 00:34:20,399
and a place where

887
00:34:24,389 --> 00:34:21,919
um

888
00:34:26,470 --> 00:34:24,399

that gets to be a little bit closer to

889

00:34:28,389 --> 00:34:26,480

the situation that we might find on

890

00:34:31,270 --> 00:34:28,399

europa

891

00:34:33,030 --> 00:34:31,280

to do this we'll travel up to alaska

892

00:34:34,389 --> 00:34:33,040

some of this work was recently featured

893

00:34:37,030 --> 00:34:34,399

in national geographic

894

00:34:40,550 --> 00:34:37,040

and it involves studying

895

00:34:43,109 --> 00:34:40,560

these some 10 000 permafrost lakes

896

00:34:44,950 --> 00:34:43,119

that are along the north slope of alaska

897

00:34:46,550 --> 00:34:44,960

these little dots here

898

00:34:47,430 --> 00:34:46,560

are lakes that are open during the

899

00:34:49,190 --> 00:34:47,440

summer

900

00:34:50,069 --> 00:34:49,200

and then freeze over

901
00:34:52,790 --> 00:34:50,079
in

902
00:34:55,270 --> 00:34:52,800
the october november time frame and some

903
00:34:57,270 --> 00:34:55,280
fraction of these lakes have methane

904
00:34:59,270 --> 00:34:57,280
bubbling out of them

905
00:35:00,470 --> 00:34:59,280
we know it's methane because the methane

906
00:35:03,109 --> 00:35:00,480
gets trapped in the ice and we can

907
00:35:05,750 --> 00:35:03,119
actually crack open the ice and light

908
00:35:10,150 --> 00:35:05,760
some of that methane on fire

909
00:35:13,589 --> 00:35:11,750
now

910
00:35:14,870 --> 00:35:13,599
tonight i don't have time to go into a

911
00:35:17,589 --> 00:35:14,880
lot of detail

912
00:35:19,510 --> 00:35:17,599
about the the biological work that we're

913
00:35:21,349 --> 00:35:19,520

doing doing on studying the microbes

914

00:35:23,270 --> 00:35:21,359

that are utilizing some of the methane

915

00:35:25,589 --> 00:35:23,280

and the microbes that are that are

916

00:35:28,150 --> 00:35:25,599

producing some of the methane i want to

917

00:35:30,630 --> 00:35:28,160

skip to some of the the technological

918

00:35:32,790 --> 00:35:30,640

development that we're doing

919

00:35:34,150 --> 00:35:32,800

to then study and monitor these

920

00:35:36,310 --> 00:35:34,160

ecosystems

921

00:35:38,790 --> 00:35:36,320

throughout the season

922

00:35:40,310 --> 00:35:38,800

we can only as humans we're fragile and

923

00:35:41,589 --> 00:35:40,320

we can only be up there for part of the

924

00:35:42,790 --> 00:35:41,599

year

925

00:35:44,950 --> 00:35:42,800

but of course

926
00:35:47,589 --> 00:35:44,960
here at jpl we build robots that go to

927
00:35:49,829 --> 00:35:47,599
much harsher environments than than

928
00:35:51,990 --> 00:35:49,839
than the north slope of alaska why can't

929
00:35:54,870 --> 00:35:52,000
we build something that we can just

930
00:35:56,310 --> 00:35:54,880
set free and deploy to study these lakes

931
00:35:59,430 --> 00:35:56,320
autonomously

932
00:36:00,310 --> 00:35:59,440
for months to years on end

933
00:36:04,310 --> 00:36:00,320
and

934
00:36:06,630 --> 00:36:04,320
to that uh to that effect um some of

935
00:36:08,550 --> 00:36:06,640
jpl's engineers john lichty and andy

936
00:36:10,870 --> 00:36:08,560
klesch and dan barrisford i think might

937
00:36:13,190 --> 00:36:10,880
be in the audience a brilliant team of

938
00:36:14,710 --> 00:36:13,200

engineers we're we're up there studying

939

00:36:16,069 --> 00:36:14,720

these lakes and and we're trying to

940

00:36:17,589 --> 00:36:16,079

figure out some of the chemistry of the

941

00:36:20,310 --> 00:36:17,599

ice water interface

942

00:36:22,310 --> 00:36:20,320

and what microbes are are utilizing the

943

00:36:24,069 --> 00:36:22,320

methane

944

00:36:26,950 --> 00:36:24,079

and to do that

945

00:36:28,550 --> 00:36:26,960

we wanted a vehicle a submersible

946

00:36:30,950 --> 00:36:28,560

that um

947

00:36:34,550 --> 00:36:30,960

that did not disturb the water too much

948

00:36:36,310 --> 00:36:34,560

and that could have a very long lifetime

949

00:36:37,349 --> 00:36:36,320

and we sort of had this collective aha

950

00:36:39,510 --> 00:36:37,359

of well

951
00:36:41,589 --> 00:36:39,520
a traditional submersible is very energy

952
00:36:43,190 --> 00:36:41,599
intensive because it's moving in three

953
00:36:45,589 --> 00:36:43,200
dimensions

954
00:36:47,670 --> 00:36:45,599
whereas a rover is quite efficient

955
00:36:50,470 --> 00:36:47,680
because when you get to a place you like

956
00:36:52,710 --> 00:36:50,480
you can just stop and do the science

957
00:36:54,550 --> 00:36:52,720
well why not just take a rover and turn

958
00:36:56,069 --> 00:36:54,560
it upside down

959
00:36:57,910 --> 00:36:56,079
and pretend

960
00:36:58,950 --> 00:36:57,920
like we're crawling on the underside of

961
00:37:01,030 --> 00:36:58,960
the ice

962
00:37:02,790 --> 00:37:01,040
and so that's exactly what our team

963
00:37:05,349 --> 00:37:02,800

designed we call it the buoyant rover

964

00:37:09,190 --> 00:37:05,359

for under ice exploration

965

00:37:11,109 --> 00:37:09,200

and along with doing this this uh uh

966

00:37:13,349 --> 00:37:11,119

interesting mobility innovation of

967

00:37:15,349 --> 00:37:13,359

roving of having buoyancy

968

00:37:18,150 --> 00:37:15,359

stick us to the underside of the ice

969

00:37:19,829 --> 00:37:18,160

this past field season i also set forth

970

00:37:25,109 --> 00:37:19,839

the challenge to our team

971

00:37:26,710 --> 00:37:25,119

to allow us to do europa-like operations

972

00:37:28,870 --> 00:37:26,720

now of course the first

973

00:37:30,870 --> 00:37:28,880

step in doing a spacecraft observation

974

00:37:31,910 --> 00:37:30,880

operation is you've got to survive

975

00:37:36,790 --> 00:37:31,920

launch

976

00:37:38,630 --> 00:37:36,800

analogous to uh to being trailed behind

977

00:37:40,790 --> 00:37:38,640

a snow machine on the alaskan permafrost

978

00:37:45,430 --> 00:37:40,800

for about 20 kilometers

979

00:37:49,190 --> 00:37:47,430

coupled with that we wanted a very small

980

00:37:51,270 --> 00:37:49,200

system something that we could could fit

981

00:37:53,030 --> 00:37:51,280

on the back of a of a sled

982

00:37:54,550 --> 00:37:53,040

here we're doing initial deployment and

983

00:37:56,950 --> 00:37:54,560

checkout here's john

984

00:37:58,790 --> 00:37:56,960

you can see that we're on a tether right

985

00:38:01,030 --> 00:37:58,800

now

986

00:38:03,589 --> 00:38:01,040

and what we're eventually building up to

987

00:38:04,470 --> 00:38:03,599

that i'll show you in in a few moments

988

00:38:06,069 --> 00:38:04,480

is

989

00:38:08,550 --> 00:38:06,079

pulling that tether

990

00:38:11,990 --> 00:38:08,560

and operating the vehicle

991

00:38:14,069 --> 00:38:12,000

untethered underwater under ice

992

00:38:15,990 --> 00:38:14,079

via satellite link

993

00:38:18,870 --> 00:38:16,000

such that we could leave it there and go

994

00:38:22,150 --> 00:38:18,880

back to our nice warm quanza hut and and

995

00:38:26,310 --> 00:38:24,950

in short sleeves uh here's

996

00:38:29,349 --> 00:38:26,320

one of the lakes that's got a lot of

997

00:38:31,109 --> 00:38:29,359

methane bubbling out of it

998

00:38:32,790 --> 00:38:31,119

andy clash here is poking through the

999

00:38:33,829 --> 00:38:32,800

ice trying to make sure it's safe to

1000

00:38:36,390 --> 00:38:33,839

walk on

1001
00:38:38,150 --> 00:38:36,400
and we'll pan over to a few of the

1002
00:38:40,310 --> 00:38:38,160
open regions

1003
00:38:42,710 --> 00:38:40,320
that still have methane bubbling out of

1004
00:38:44,390 --> 00:38:42,720
them and as you see as we pan further

1005
00:38:47,109 --> 00:38:44,400
and further to the right

1006
00:38:49,510 --> 00:38:47,119
i'm actually standing on pretty thin ice

1007
00:38:51,589 --> 00:38:49,520
um and i've actually taken a dip into

1008
00:38:52,710 --> 00:38:51,599
this water not intentionally

1009
00:38:55,829 --> 00:38:52,720
um

1010
00:38:57,430 --> 00:38:55,839
and uh uh it's cold but we we come

1011
00:39:00,069 --> 00:38:57,440
prepared and we've got lots of backup

1012
00:39:01,910 --> 00:39:00,079
gear so you can see that the methane is

1013
00:39:03,750 --> 00:39:01,920

actively bubbling out

1014

00:39:05,829 --> 00:39:03,760

it's not hot it's just the kinetic

1015

00:39:07,109 --> 00:39:05,839

activity of the methane that maintains

1016

00:39:09,589 --> 00:39:07,119

the open water

1017

00:39:10,870 --> 00:39:09,599

and now we'll dive under the ice

1018

00:39:13,670 --> 00:39:10,880

and this time

1019

00:39:17,349 --> 00:39:13,680

the rover is operating untethered

1020

00:39:21,510 --> 00:39:19,829

and the bubbles that you see coming out

1021

00:39:24,390 --> 00:39:21,520

those are methane bubbles and the

1022

00:39:25,430 --> 00:39:24,400

bubbles that are trapped in the ice

1023

00:39:28,470 --> 00:39:25,440

are

1024

00:39:29,910 --> 00:39:28,480

that's methane that that's being

1025

00:39:31,910 --> 00:39:29,920

encapsulated

1026

00:39:33,990 --> 00:39:31,920

in the ice as the ice thickens

1027

00:39:36,630 --> 00:39:34,000

throughout the the season

1028

00:39:39,270 --> 00:39:36,640

and so we've just begun to uh to make

1029

00:39:41,430 --> 00:39:39,280

this a platform that can survive for

1030

00:39:44,470 --> 00:39:41,440

long periods of time under the ice this

1031

00:39:45,270 --> 00:39:44,480

past field season we left it out there

1032

00:39:47,829 --> 00:39:45,280

for

1033

00:39:49,990 --> 00:39:47,839

two periods of about 30 hours

1034

00:39:51,829 --> 00:39:50,000

and john and andy and dan were able to

1035

00:39:52,790 --> 00:39:51,839

actually hand over control

1036

00:39:56,950 --> 00:39:52,800

to

1037

00:39:58,630 --> 00:39:56,960

via satellite link while it was under

1038

00:40:00,870 --> 00:39:58,640

the ice

1039

00:40:02,870 --> 00:40:00,880

this is what the rover sees

1040

00:40:03,990 --> 00:40:02,880

we'll take a dive

1041

00:40:07,670 --> 00:40:04,000

uh

1042

00:40:09,270 --> 00:40:07,680

into the lake this is an alaskan sunrise

1043

00:40:12,150 --> 00:40:09,280

the sun doesn't get much higher in the

1044

00:40:12,160 --> 00:40:16,710

we'll go over the little hole here

1045

00:40:16,720 --> 00:40:24,309

and i think you can hear it

1046

00:40:27,270 --> 00:40:25,190

in

1047

00:40:29,109 --> 00:40:27,280

and there you can see the uh

1048

00:40:31,030 --> 00:40:29,119

the rover vision

1049

00:40:32,710 --> 00:40:31,040

that allows us to examine the

1050

00:40:35,670 --> 00:40:32,720

the lake floor

1051

00:40:36,630 --> 00:40:35,680

and uh the ice water interface

1052

00:40:38,870 --> 00:40:36,640

and so

1053

00:40:41,750 --> 00:40:38,880

when we get to a spot that we then want

1054

00:40:43,270 --> 00:40:41,760

to do sampling and scientific analyses

1055

00:40:45,910 --> 00:40:43,280

we can leave the rover there without

1056

00:40:48,550 --> 00:40:45,920

expending excess battery power

1057

00:40:50,630 --> 00:40:48,560

and that potentially means that we can

1058

00:40:56,550 --> 00:40:50,640

leave it out there for a full winter

1059

00:40:59,910 --> 00:40:58,630

and as i mentioned we were able to to uh

1060

00:41:02,230 --> 00:40:59,920

to operate it

1061

00:41:03,990 --> 00:41:02,240

both from the kwanaa hut and from jpl

1062

00:41:05,750 --> 00:41:04,000

now what i showed you it looked like fun

1063

00:41:07,430 --> 00:41:05,760

it looked nice and everything just to

1064

00:41:09,109 --> 00:41:07,440

emphasize uh um

1065

00:41:10,150 --> 00:41:09,119

there are many days that are not fun up

1066

00:41:11,349 --> 00:41:10,160

there

1067

00:41:13,190 --> 00:41:11,359

and in fact

1068

00:41:15,349 --> 00:41:13,200

on the the second deployment of our

1069

00:41:18,069 --> 00:41:15,359

rover we went out there and a huge storm

1070

00:41:19,589 --> 00:41:18,079

had rolled in it had blown down one of

1071

00:41:21,510 --> 00:41:19,599

our tents

1072

00:41:23,430 --> 00:41:21,520

and recovering the rover actually turned

1073

00:41:26,069 --> 00:41:23,440

out to be a bit of a challenge

1074

00:41:27,589 --> 00:41:26,079

because so much snow had had filled in

1075

00:41:29,030 --> 00:41:27,599

over the ice but eventually we were able

1076

00:41:31,030 --> 00:41:29,040

to get it out

1077

00:41:33,109 --> 00:41:31,040

and a national geographic photographer

1078

00:41:34,870 --> 00:41:33,119

mark thiessen was up there with us and

1079

00:41:38,069 --> 00:41:34,880

captured these beautiful images with a

1080

00:41:38,950 --> 00:41:38,079

with a camera on a stick uh showing

1081

00:41:41,030 --> 00:41:38,960

um

1082

00:41:42,790 --> 00:41:41,040

the rover in action

1083

00:41:46,390 --> 00:41:42,800

so we've gone to some place cold we've

1084

00:41:48,870 --> 00:41:46,400

gone to some place cold and wet and dark

1085

00:41:50,550 --> 00:41:48,880

next i'd like to bring you to

1086

00:41:53,510 --> 00:41:50,560

deep places

1087

00:41:54,710 --> 00:41:53,520

in our ocean places that are comparable

1088

00:41:58,630 --> 00:41:54,720

in pressure

1089

00:42:02,870 --> 00:41:58,640

to uh the the pressures that life within

1090

00:42:04,790 --> 00:42:02,880

a an ocean of europa might experience

1091

00:42:07,990 --> 00:42:04,800

and i was fortunate enough to be a part

1092

00:42:09,750 --> 00:42:08,000

of an expedition out to both the

1093

00:42:10,630 --> 00:42:09,760

mid-atlantic ridge and the east pacific

1094

00:42:13,190 --> 00:42:10,640

rise

1095

00:42:14,870 --> 00:42:13,200

to explore hydrothermal vents this was a

1096

00:42:17,190 --> 00:42:14,880

part of an imax

1097

00:42:19,430 --> 00:42:17,200

project spearheaded by james cameron in

1098

00:42:23,589 --> 00:42:19,440

disney we're on the russian research

1099

00:42:25,270 --> 00:42:23,599

vessel vessel the kaldish which has two

1100

00:42:27,109 --> 00:42:25,280

deep ocean submersibles that can each

1101

00:42:29,030 --> 00:42:27,119

carry three people

1102

00:42:31,190 --> 00:42:29,040

and these can go

1103

00:42:32,550 --> 00:42:31,200

to nearly six kilometers or more in

1104

00:42:34,870 --> 00:42:32,560

depth

1105

00:42:36,550 --> 00:42:34,880

i got to make a number of dives

1106

00:42:37,670 --> 00:42:36,560

and in some cases

1107

00:42:40,309 --> 00:42:37,680

we had

1108

00:42:41,829 --> 00:42:40,319

an additional acrylic sphere

1109

00:42:44,069 --> 00:42:41,839

rover with us we actually had two of

1110

00:42:45,430 --> 00:42:44,079

these and we made dives on some of these

1111

00:42:48,390 --> 00:42:45,440

sites with

1112

00:42:50,069 --> 00:42:48,400

two three and even four submersibles at

1113

00:42:50,870 --> 00:42:50,079

a time

1114

00:42:53,190 --> 00:42:50,880

and

1115

00:42:55,670 --> 00:42:53,200

part of what we are studying are these

1116

00:42:56,710 --> 00:42:55,680

hydrothermal vent ecosystems ecosystems

1117

00:42:59,910 --> 00:42:56,720

on earth

1118

00:43:01,750 --> 00:42:59,920

that revolutionized our understanding of

1119

00:43:03,829 --> 00:43:01,760

the habitability of our own planet these

1120

00:43:05,990 --> 00:43:03,839

were discovered back in the spring of

1121

00:43:08,550 --> 00:43:06,000

1977 not long

1122

00:43:09,670 --> 00:43:08,560

after viking had set down on the surface

1123

00:43:12,550 --> 00:43:09,680

of mars

1124

00:43:13,990 --> 00:43:12,560

no one really expected that these

1125

00:43:16,309 --> 00:43:14,000

hydrothermal vent

1126
00:43:18,390 --> 00:43:16,319
systems would be anything more than

1127
00:43:21,270 --> 00:43:18,400
geological curiosities

1128
00:43:23,030 --> 00:43:21,280
but in fact they turned out to be

1129
00:43:25,190 --> 00:43:23,040
oases for life

1130
00:43:27,430 --> 00:43:25,200
they were not just

1131
00:43:28,309 --> 00:43:27,440
regions where microbes were eking out a

1132
00:43:30,069 --> 00:43:28,319
living

1133
00:43:33,589 --> 00:43:30,079
there were places where

1134
00:43:36,390 --> 00:43:33,599
microbes utilizing chemosynthesis

1135
00:43:38,309 --> 00:43:36,400
formed the foundation of a complex food

1136
00:43:39,510 --> 00:43:38,319
chain consisting

1137
00:43:43,109 --> 00:43:39,520
of

1138
00:43:45,829 --> 00:43:43,119

shrimp and tube worms and and mussels uh

1139

00:43:47,589 --> 00:43:45,839

and crabs and so here all of the white

1140

00:43:50,309 --> 00:43:47,599

material that you're seeing

1141

00:43:52,630 --> 00:43:50,319

those are microbes that are utilizing

1142

00:43:55,510 --> 00:43:52,640

the chemistry of the hydrothermal vents

1143

00:43:56,630 --> 00:43:55,520

to do this process of chemosynthesis

1144

00:43:58,550 --> 00:43:56,640

functioning

1145

00:44:00,950 --> 00:43:58,560

with that chemosynthetic metabolic

1146

00:44:03,510 --> 00:44:00,960

pathway as opposed to photosynthesis

1147

00:44:06,309 --> 00:44:03,520

which of course requires the sun

1148

00:44:08,550 --> 00:44:06,319

but a site like this

1149

00:44:09,349 --> 00:44:08,560

requires active

1150

00:44:12,230 --> 00:44:09,359

um

1151
00:44:15,910 --> 00:44:12,240
creation of new seafloor we also went to

1152
00:44:18,790 --> 00:44:15,920
a region known as lost city shown here

1153
00:44:20,309 --> 00:44:18,800
this is a region that is off axis from

1154
00:44:21,430 --> 00:44:20,319
the spreading centers

1155
00:44:26,309 --> 00:44:21,440
and

1156
00:44:27,190 --> 00:44:26,319
particular type of hydrothermal vent

1157
00:44:29,349 --> 00:44:27,200
is that

1158
00:44:32,390 --> 00:44:29,359
it's not powered

1159
00:44:35,349 --> 00:44:32,400
by heat transferred from the mantle it's

1160
00:44:37,270 --> 00:44:35,359
powered by an exothermic reaction called

1161
00:44:39,589 --> 00:44:37,280
serpentinization

1162
00:44:43,349 --> 00:44:39,599
wherein

1163
00:44:46,710 --> 00:44:43,359

ultramafic rock rock from the mantle

1164

00:44:48,550 --> 00:44:46,720

is exposed to ocean water and drives a

1165

00:44:51,030 --> 00:44:48,560

chemical reaction

1166

00:44:53,030 --> 00:44:51,040

that's exothermic i.e sort of similar to

1167

00:44:56,790 --> 00:44:53,040

like taking a hand warmer and shaking it

1168

00:44:57,829 --> 00:44:56,800

up and that leads to this this diffuse

1169

00:44:59,589 --> 00:44:57,839

venting

1170

00:45:02,470 --> 00:44:59,599

and precipitation of things like

1171

00:45:04,230 --> 00:45:02,480

carbonate and it's around these sites

1172

00:45:06,230 --> 00:45:04,240

though it doesn't look quite as

1173

00:45:07,750 --> 00:45:06,240

biologically active there are many

1174

00:45:08,870 --> 00:45:07,760

microbial mats

1175

00:45:10,230 --> 00:45:08,880

um

1176
00:45:12,710 --> 00:45:10,240
thriving here

1177
00:45:14,550 --> 00:45:12,720
and one of the most profound creatures

1178
00:45:17,589 --> 00:45:14,560
that that i've ever seen on on our

1179
00:45:19,589 --> 00:45:17,599
planet this creature

1180
00:45:21,349 --> 00:45:19,599
large tenoforce spanning about a meter

1181
00:45:24,230 --> 00:45:21,359
and a half to two meters

1182
00:45:26,630 --> 00:45:24,240
this creature was just swimming around

1183
00:45:28,309 --> 00:45:26,640
that chimney that i just showed you

1184
00:45:29,109 --> 00:45:28,319
and an interesting little little story

1185
00:45:30,390 --> 00:45:29,119
here

1186
00:45:32,550 --> 00:45:30,400
um

1187
00:45:36,069 --> 00:45:32,560
the uh

1188
00:45:41,109 --> 00:45:38,630

i went down on this dive in one of those

1189

00:45:43,270 --> 00:45:41,119

those acrylic spheres

1190

00:45:44,150 --> 00:45:43,280

and got down to the bottom of the ocean

1191

00:45:46,550 --> 00:45:44,160

um

1192

00:45:47,910 --> 00:45:46,560

and started to collect some samples

1193

00:45:48,870 --> 00:45:47,920

and we're communicating with the other

1194

00:45:50,710 --> 00:45:48,880

subs

1195

00:45:52,470 --> 00:45:50,720

and james cameron was in the other

1196

00:45:54,390 --> 00:45:52,480

acrylic sphere

1197

00:45:56,069 --> 00:45:54,400

and they had not caught up with us so so

1198

00:45:57,190 --> 00:45:56,079

we radioed up to them and we said well

1199

00:46:04,710 --> 00:45:57,200

what's

1200

00:46:05,510 --> 00:46:04,720

uh we acoustically transponded uh to to

1201

00:46:07,589 --> 00:46:05,520

uh

1202

00:46:09,750 --> 00:46:07,599

to the other submersible and it's a real

1203

00:46:10,870 --> 00:46:09,760

choppy communication uh so it's hard to

1204

00:46:13,109 --> 00:46:10,880

make things out

1205

00:46:15,270 --> 00:46:13,119

but we get uh a communication back

1206

00:46:17,030 --> 00:46:15,280

saying oh yeah yeah we're we've run into

1207

00:46:18,630 --> 00:46:17,040

a little bit of trouble uh don't worry

1208

00:46:20,230 --> 00:46:18,640

we'll be down there at the bottom of the

1209

00:46:21,190 --> 00:46:20,240

ocean in five minutes

1210

00:46:22,870 --> 00:46:21,200

so

1211

00:46:24,550 --> 00:46:22,880

we keep on sampling and it's about that

1212

00:46:25,910 --> 00:46:24,560

time that i discovered this creature

1213

00:46:27,750 --> 00:46:25,920

because i was picking up a sample and i

1214

00:46:30,309 --> 00:46:27,760

turned the rover a little bit and there

1215

00:46:32,710 --> 00:46:30,319

was this this astonishing space bagel as

1216

00:46:35,750 --> 00:46:32,720

we first called it

1217

00:46:37,829 --> 00:46:35,760

and so we called back up to to uh

1218

00:46:39,510 --> 00:46:37,839

to cameron and to paul the the pilot

1219

00:46:40,790 --> 00:46:39,520

that was with him we said you guys gotta

1220

00:46:42,390 --> 00:46:40,800

gotta get down here you won't believe

1221

00:46:44,390 --> 00:46:42,400

what we're looking at

1222

00:46:48,390 --> 00:46:44,400

they said oh yeah we're we're coming uh

1223

00:46:50,710 --> 00:46:49,589

and uh

1224

00:46:54,309 --> 00:46:50,720

and of course the last thing that you

1225

00:46:55,349 --> 00:46:54,319

want to hear uh uh when from your your

1226

00:46:57,109 --> 00:46:55,359

friends and colleagues that are in a

1227

00:46:59,670 --> 00:46:57,119

submersible is that there's a leak in

1228

00:47:03,109 --> 00:47:01,270

and so we said are you sure you don't

1229

00:47:08,550 --> 00:47:03,119

want a surface and they said no no no we

1230

00:47:14,390 --> 00:47:12,630

now there actually is some logic to that

1231

00:47:16,950 --> 00:47:14,400

because the way that these submersibles

1232

00:47:17,990 --> 00:47:16,960

work these particular submersibles work

1233

00:47:19,670 --> 00:47:18,000

is that

1234

00:47:21,910 --> 00:47:19,680

you get in from below

1235

00:47:22,870 --> 00:47:21,920

and there's a cork like plug in the

1236

00:47:24,950 --> 00:47:22,880

bottom

1237

00:47:27,270 --> 00:47:24,960

and as you drop further down in the

1238

00:47:28,150 --> 00:47:27,280

ocean the pressure increases and the

1239

00:47:29,670 --> 00:47:28,160

force

1240

00:47:31,349 --> 00:47:29,680

pushing on that plug

1241

00:47:33,270 --> 00:47:31,359

creates a tighter and tighter tighter

1242

00:47:35,510 --> 00:47:33,280

seal and so they said yeah we'll just

1243

00:47:37,510 --> 00:47:35,520

keep on going down and that'll

1244

00:47:38,790 --> 00:47:37,520

improve the seal

1245

00:47:40,549 --> 00:47:38,800

and sure enough they got down to the

1246

00:47:43,750 --> 00:47:40,559

bottom

1247

00:47:45,670 --> 00:47:43,760

and the leak persisted

1248

00:47:46,950 --> 00:47:45,680

but but they didn't die

1249

00:47:48,790 --> 00:47:46,960

and

1250

00:47:50,470 --> 00:47:48,800

in fact

1251

00:47:53,109 --> 00:47:50,480

cameron was able to

1252

00:47:55,109 --> 00:47:53,119

recover this astonishing footage

1253

00:47:56,150 --> 00:47:55,119

of this creature in action

1254

00:47:58,150 --> 00:47:56,160

um

1255

00:48:00,470 --> 00:47:58,160

arguably one of the most bizarre and

1256

00:48:01,349 --> 00:48:00,480

beautiful life forms that that i've ever

1257

00:48:02,150 --> 00:48:01,359

had the

1258

00:48:05,190 --> 00:48:02,160

uh

1259

00:48:08,630 --> 00:48:05,200

the the um

1260

00:48:10,390 --> 00:48:08,640

uh a great chance to experience

1261

00:48:12,630 --> 00:48:10,400

but okay so these hydrothermal vents

1262

00:48:15,670 --> 00:48:12,640

these are great um but to be honest

1263

00:48:16,549 --> 00:48:15,680

they're not that europa-like um

1264

00:48:18,069 --> 00:48:16,559

this

1265

00:48:20,950 --> 00:48:18,079

the depths that were

1266

00:48:23,430 --> 00:48:20,960

that i've been showing you are three to

1267

00:48:25,589 --> 00:48:23,440

four kilometers uh lost cities at about

1268

00:48:27,829 --> 00:48:25,599

a kilometer depth

1269

00:48:30,950 --> 00:48:27,839

the pressures in these regions is

1270

00:48:31,990 --> 00:48:30,960

equivalent to maybe 10 to 20 kilometers

1271

00:48:34,630 --> 00:48:32,000

or so

1272

00:48:36,870 --> 00:48:34,640

perhaps as much as 30 kilometers below

1273

00:48:40,470 --> 00:48:36,880

the surface of europa and we think that

1274

00:48:42,470 --> 00:48:40,480

the sea floor of europa may well be 100

1275

00:48:44,069 --> 00:48:42,480

kilometers or so down

1276
00:48:46,230 --> 00:48:44,079
to get to

1277
00:48:47,190 --> 00:48:46,240
pressures comparable

1278
00:48:48,630 --> 00:48:47,200
to

1279
00:48:50,710 --> 00:48:48,640
those depths

1280
00:48:52,870 --> 00:48:50,720
you need to go

1281
00:48:55,990 --> 00:48:52,880
here to the mariana trench to the

1282
00:48:59,589 --> 00:48:56,000
challenger deep region of our ocean

1283
00:49:02,790 --> 00:48:59,599
a region where our ocean gets down to 11

1284
00:49:04,790 --> 00:49:02,800
kilometers and i um was part of an

1285
00:49:07,510 --> 00:49:04,800
expedition to go back out to the

1286
00:49:08,710 --> 00:49:07,520
challenger deep uh james cameron made

1287
00:49:10,870 --> 00:49:08,720
the dive

1288
00:49:13,430 --> 00:49:10,880

back to this deepest depth and we also

1289

00:49:15,349 --> 00:49:13,440

had a few robotic landers that that we

1290

00:49:17,589 --> 00:49:15,359

dropped along with the uh human

1291

00:49:19,670 --> 00:49:17,599

submersible

1292

00:49:21,430 --> 00:49:19,680

unlike the previous expedition i did not

1293

00:49:22,309 --> 00:49:21,440

get to go down to the bottom of mariana

1294

00:49:23,750 --> 00:49:22,319

trench

1295

00:49:28,710 --> 00:49:23,760

so when people ask me what it looked

1296

00:49:31,829 --> 00:49:30,790

pretty much like any other spot on the

1297

00:49:34,069 --> 00:49:31,839

ocean

1298

00:49:38,230 --> 00:49:34,079

uh and you may have seen lots of uh

1299

00:49:39,910 --> 00:49:38,240

pictures and and and video uh of uh

1300

00:49:42,950 --> 00:49:39,920

of this expedition

1301
00:49:43,990 --> 00:49:42,960
an incredible engineering achievement

1302
00:49:46,950 --> 00:49:44,000
this

1303
00:49:48,630 --> 00:49:46,960
the human submersible

1304
00:49:50,150 --> 00:49:48,640
is a vertical

1305
00:49:51,750 --> 00:49:50,160
dropping

1306
00:49:53,430 --> 00:49:51,760
torpedo

1307
00:49:55,190 --> 00:49:53,440
it goes in horizontally like this and

1308
00:49:56,630 --> 00:49:55,200
i'll show you in a few slides what it

1309
00:49:58,710 --> 00:49:56,640
looked like as it was dropping through

1310
00:49:59,990 --> 00:49:58,720
the ocean as i mentioned i didn't get to

1311
00:50:02,790 --> 00:50:00,000
get uh

1312
00:50:04,470 --> 00:50:02,800
go on a trip in it uh

1313
00:50:06,870 --> 00:50:04,480

james cameron was the only one that made

1314

00:50:10,950 --> 00:50:06,880

the dive to the bottom of the ocean uh

1315

00:50:13,430 --> 00:50:10,960

and uh and and quite a spectacular feat

1316

00:50:14,790 --> 00:50:13,440

the the integration and testing of this

1317

00:50:18,390 --> 00:50:14,800

submersible

1318

00:50:20,309 --> 00:50:18,400

took place in a time frame of months

1319

00:50:21,990 --> 00:50:20,319

cameron had been planning it and and had

1320

00:50:24,230 --> 00:50:22,000

a small core team

1321

00:50:25,349 --> 00:50:24,240

that made some of the key features over

1322

00:50:27,829 --> 00:50:25,359

the course of

1323

00:50:30,950 --> 00:50:27,839

of roughly five or so years

1324

00:50:34,150 --> 00:50:30,960

but really the integration and testing

1325

00:50:39,589 --> 00:50:37,829

roughly october to november of 2011

1326

00:50:42,710 --> 00:50:39,599

and the big dive

1327

00:50:45,109 --> 00:50:42,720

was done near the end of march in 2012.

1328

00:50:47,270 --> 00:50:45,119

um i won't go into it tonight but at

1329

00:50:49,510 --> 00:50:47,280

some point we'll have that team here to

1330

00:50:51,510 --> 00:50:49,520

talk about systems engineering

1331

00:50:56,230 --> 00:50:51,520

in a very tight time frame because uh it

1332

00:50:58,710 --> 00:50:57,829

the

1333

00:51:00,710 --> 00:50:58,720

so

1334

00:51:03,190 --> 00:51:00,720

cameron came back alive on on the human

1335

00:51:05,829 --> 00:51:03,200

exploration side uh that that was great

1336

00:51:07,829 --> 00:51:05,839

everybody breathed a huge sigh of relief

1337

00:51:09,829 --> 00:51:07,839

but a little bit of an anecdote for you

1338

00:51:11,030 --> 00:51:09,839

um

1339

00:51:14,150 --> 00:51:11,040

though

1340

00:51:16,549 --> 00:51:14,160

everything went off without a hitch

1341

00:51:18,069 --> 00:51:16,559

the team had planned on doing the big

1342

00:51:19,589 --> 00:51:18,079

dive

1343

00:51:21,990 --> 00:51:19,599

towards the end of january if not

1344

00:51:23,990 --> 00:51:22,000

january then certainly in february and

1345

00:51:25,670 --> 00:51:24,000

if not in february than sometime in in

1346

00:51:28,150 --> 00:51:25,680

early march

1347

00:51:31,349 --> 00:51:28,160

but with weather and a few things a few

1348

00:51:36,150 --> 00:51:34,150

those dates slipped and when we started

1349

00:51:39,030 --> 00:51:36,160

out the expedition

1350

00:51:40,150 --> 00:51:39,040

there was one date that cameron could

1351

00:51:41,589 --> 00:51:40,160

not

1352

00:51:44,710 --> 00:51:41,599

um

1353

00:51:47,349 --> 00:51:44,720

miss and that was that he had to be

1354

00:51:49,750 --> 00:51:47,359

in london walking the red carpet on i

1355

00:51:54,150 --> 00:51:49,760

think it was march 27th

1356

00:51:56,790 --> 00:51:54,160

for the re-release of titanic 3d

1357

00:51:58,390 --> 00:51:56,800

and this was this was some contract that

1358

00:51:59,990 --> 00:51:58,400

he had signed in blood that he would be

1359

00:52:02,950 --> 00:52:00,000

there

1360

00:52:04,470 --> 00:52:02,960

and lo and behold with uh with some of

1361

00:52:05,910 --> 00:52:04,480

the delays due to weather and other

1362

00:52:07,910 --> 00:52:05,920

things

1363

00:52:10,790 --> 00:52:07,920

we found ourselves

1364

00:52:15,270 --> 00:52:10,800

on sunday night march 25th

1365

00:52:20,950 --> 00:52:17,670

and jim had to be in london less than 48

1366

00:52:25,270 --> 00:52:23,750

but thankfully on monday morning the the

1367

00:52:28,950 --> 00:52:25,280

seas were calm

1368

00:52:31,270 --> 00:52:28,960

and we're able to to deploy the sub

1369

00:52:32,630 --> 00:52:31,280

it took about

1370

00:52:33,589 --> 00:52:32,640

less than four hours to get to the

1371

00:52:35,510 --> 00:52:33,599

bottom

1372

00:52:38,390 --> 00:52:35,520

the the torpedo just dropped straight

1373

00:52:39,349 --> 00:52:38,400

down he was then able to traverse

1374

00:52:41,030 --> 00:52:39,359

along

1375

00:52:42,870 --> 00:52:41,040

the challenger deep for a few hours and

1376

00:52:44,470 --> 00:52:42,880

then come back up

1377

00:52:47,030 --> 00:52:44,480

but of course

1378

00:52:48,870 --> 00:52:47,040

by that time it was late on monday and

1379

00:52:50,710 --> 00:52:48,880

he still had to get

1380

00:52:53,829 --> 00:52:50,720

to london

1381

00:52:55,910 --> 00:52:53,839

now this is where um

1382

00:52:57,430 --> 00:52:55,920

i started to appreciate

1383

00:53:00,390 --> 00:52:57,440

the

1384

00:53:03,510 --> 00:53:00,400

dividing line between um life as a

1385

00:53:05,430 --> 00:53:03,520

scientist and and and life as a

1386

00:53:08,470 --> 00:53:05,440

bazillionaire hollywood uh director

1387

00:53:09,990 --> 00:53:08,480

producer etc as if it hadn't been clear

1388

00:53:10,870 --> 00:53:10,000

before

1389

00:53:12,630 --> 00:53:10,880

uh

1390

00:53:14,309 --> 00:53:12,640

so we're all kind of like how how is how

1391

00:53:16,470 --> 00:53:14,319

is jim gonna going to make this this

1392

00:53:18,710 --> 00:53:16,480

trip when we got back out to the mariana

1393

00:53:20,710 --> 00:53:18,720

trench after doing some repairs we

1394

00:53:22,710 --> 00:53:20,720

noticed this ship on the horizon which

1395

00:53:23,910 --> 00:53:22,720

looked quite small at first but as we

1396

00:53:26,150 --> 00:53:23,920

got closer

1397

00:53:27,190 --> 00:53:26,160

we saw that in fact

1398

00:53:30,309 --> 00:53:27,200

it was a

1399

00:53:33,589 --> 00:53:31,670

and um

1400

00:53:35,030 --> 00:53:33,599

it turns out that this is paul allen's

1401

00:53:35,910 --> 00:53:35,040

yacht

1402

00:53:37,430 --> 00:53:35,920

and

1403

00:53:39,349 --> 00:53:37,440

apparently this is one of the fastest

1404

00:53:41,270 --> 00:53:39,359

yachts on the planet

1405

00:53:42,790 --> 00:53:41,280

and so

1406

00:53:43,750 --> 00:53:42,800

cameron needed to get from point a to

1407

00:53:46,390 --> 00:53:43,760

point b

1408

00:53:47,589 --> 00:53:46,400

and uh he was called up paul allen and

1409

00:53:49,670 --> 00:53:47,599

said hey paul i'm going to be making a

1410

00:53:51,510 --> 00:53:49,680

dive to the deepest depths of our ocean

1411

00:53:53,270 --> 00:53:51,520

want to come out check it out and then

1412

00:53:55,990 --> 00:53:53,280

and then help me get to guam where i can

1413

00:53:58,390 --> 00:53:56,000

catch a plane and head on from from guam

1414

00:54:00,309 --> 00:53:58,400

to uh through russia and on to london

1415

00:54:02,230 --> 00:54:00,319

uh and sure enough he made it to the red

1416

00:54:04,150 --> 00:54:02,240

carpet just in the nick of time

1417

00:54:07,670 --> 00:54:04,160

and uh paramount or whoever it was was

1418

00:54:11,510 --> 00:54:07,680

happy uh and and he lived you know the

1419

00:54:13,510 --> 00:54:11,520

the story had a happy ending now um

1420

00:54:15,750 --> 00:54:13,520

again just to be clear so that's the uh

1421

00:54:17,829 --> 00:54:15,760

that's the the yacht that paul allen had

1422

00:54:24,150 --> 00:54:17,839

and the the fancy hollywood stuff

1423

00:54:27,750 --> 00:54:26,309

a lovely little vessel called uh the

1424

00:54:29,030 --> 00:54:27,760

barracuda

1425

00:54:30,549 --> 00:54:29,040

um

1426

00:54:32,470 --> 00:54:30,559

and uh and

1427

00:54:34,549 --> 00:54:32,480

so it was it was a fine place to call

1428

00:54:36,870 --> 00:54:34,559

home for for for many weeks

1429

00:54:39,030 --> 00:54:36,880

uh just to show you the the

1430

00:54:40,390 --> 00:54:39,040

human submersible on the bottom

1431

00:54:42,870 --> 00:54:40,400

there it is and it's it's sort of

1432

00:54:45,829 --> 00:54:42,880

vertical position uh and what's taking

1433

00:54:48,150 --> 00:54:45,839

the picture in this particular image

1434

00:54:50,870 --> 00:54:48,160

are these robotic landers that were

1435

00:54:53,109 --> 00:54:50,880

built um down at scripps uh spearheaded

1436

00:54:53,990 --> 00:54:53,119

by kevin hardy a a wonderful engineer

1437

00:54:56,470 --> 00:54:54,000

down there

1438

00:54:58,710 --> 00:54:56,480

uh and and overseen by doug bartlett the

1439

00:55:01,910 --> 00:54:58,720

chief scientist of the expedition

1440

00:55:04,789 --> 00:55:01,920

and these are telephone booth size

1441

00:55:07,030 --> 00:55:04,799

vehicles that just drop down through the

1442

00:55:09,670 --> 00:55:07,040

ocean and when they get down there they

1443

00:55:11,430 --> 00:55:09,680

deploy that arm that you see on the side

1444

00:55:13,829 --> 00:55:11,440

in the in the middle picture

1445

00:55:15,510 --> 00:55:13,839

and that arm has got a water sampling

1446

00:55:18,710 --> 00:55:15,520

device and and there are cameras on

1447

00:55:22,390 --> 00:55:18,720

board uh and sediment cores and various

1448

00:55:24,069 --> 00:55:22,400

traps to to try and attract creatures

1449

00:55:25,349 --> 00:55:24,079

and so we deployed these on the

1450

00:55:27,030 --> 00:55:25,359

challenger deep and one of the great

1451

00:55:29,190 --> 00:55:27,040

advantages of these is that you can

1452

00:55:31,990 --> 00:55:29,200

leave them down there for a long time

1453

00:55:33,270 --> 00:55:32,000

and what i'm showing you here

1454

00:55:35,190 --> 00:55:33,280

is

1455

00:55:38,150 --> 00:55:35,200

video footage

1456

00:55:40,789 --> 00:55:38,160

from the deepest depths of our ocean the

1457

00:55:42,549 --> 00:55:40,799

challenger deep a depth of greater than

1458

00:55:44,870 --> 00:55:42,559

11 kilometers

1459

00:55:47,190 --> 00:55:44,880

and the this is the what you're seeing

1460

00:55:49,589 --> 00:55:47,200

in the foreground here is that robotic

1461

00:55:51,910 --> 00:55:49,599

arm the the water sampling device

1462

00:55:54,470 --> 00:55:51,920

and there's a fish head in the net there

1463

00:55:55,829 --> 00:55:54,480

and after several hours of just

1464

00:55:56,630 --> 00:55:55,839
observing

1465

00:55:58,870 --> 00:55:56,640
this

1466

00:56:02,549 --> 00:55:58,880
fish head trapped in the net

1467

00:56:05,030 --> 00:56:02,559
what we observed are all of these

1468

00:56:07,910 --> 00:56:05,040
shrimp-like amphipods

1469

00:56:11,030 --> 00:56:07,920
collecting around the trap feeding

1470

00:56:13,670 --> 00:56:11,040
on the bait that we had left there

1471

00:56:16,630 --> 00:56:13,680
and this is astonishing

1472

00:56:17,589 --> 00:56:16,640
not only is the deepest depth of our

1473

00:56:19,670 --> 00:56:17,599
ocean

1474

00:56:22,710 --> 00:56:19,680
a place where you might have simple life

1475

00:56:26,470 --> 00:56:22,720
forms but it's a place where complex

1476

00:56:29,030 --> 00:56:26,480

multicellular life forms like these

1477

00:56:30,710 --> 00:56:29,040

exist and thrive

1478

00:56:32,870 --> 00:56:30,720

taking a close-up look at these this

1479

00:56:35,430 --> 00:56:32,880

this is what they look like

1480

00:56:37,030 --> 00:56:35,440

not the prettiest of creatures

1481

00:56:38,470 --> 00:56:37,040

and somebody in the audience always

1482

00:56:39,670 --> 00:56:38,480

wants to know well what did they taste

1483

00:56:41,670 --> 00:56:39,680

like

1484

00:56:43,270 --> 00:56:41,680

uh and sure enough

1485

00:56:44,950 --> 00:56:43,280

one of the ship hands grabbed one of

1486

00:56:46,150 --> 00:56:44,960

these and popped it into his mouth and

1487

00:56:48,390 --> 00:56:46,160

ate it

1488

00:56:49,910 --> 00:56:48,400

and subsequently uh ran to the side of

1489

00:56:53,670 --> 00:56:49,920

the boat and

1490

00:56:57,109 --> 00:56:53,680

and returned the creature to the ocean

1491

00:57:00,390 --> 00:56:58,630

but okay so that that video from the

1492

00:57:02,309 --> 00:57:00,400

challenger deep uh astonishing these

1493

00:57:03,430 --> 00:57:02,319

these these complex creatures thriving

1494

00:57:06,150 --> 00:57:03,440

down there

1495

00:57:07,670 --> 00:57:06,160

but as i as i showed we we had a bait

1496

00:57:09,670 --> 00:57:07,680

trap out there and so those creatures

1497

00:57:11,589 --> 00:57:09,680

were attracted by that food

1498

00:57:13,589 --> 00:57:11,599

what do they eat when when there's no

1499

00:57:15,109 --> 00:57:13,599

fish head around what is driving that

1500

00:57:16,710 --> 00:57:15,119

ecosystem

1501
00:57:18,950 --> 00:57:16,720
we were not really able to answer that

1502
00:57:21,270 --> 00:57:18,960
question with with the uh the

1503
00:57:23,829 --> 00:57:21,280
drop in the challenge deep but when we

1504
00:57:26,630 --> 00:57:23,839
made a drop of the robotic landers in an

1505
00:57:28,549 --> 00:57:26,640
area just a little bit to the north east

1506
00:57:30,630 --> 00:57:28,559
of the of the challenger deep in a

1507
00:57:34,309 --> 00:57:30,640
region called the cyrena deep

1508
00:57:35,670 --> 00:57:34,319
we saw a uh quite a spectacular sight

1509
00:57:38,470 --> 00:57:35,680
in this video what you'll see is the

1510
00:57:41,750 --> 00:57:38,480
robotic arm drop

1511
00:57:43,349 --> 00:57:41,760
it'll hit the sea floor

1512
00:57:44,630 --> 00:57:43,359
and

1513
00:57:47,349 --> 00:57:44,640

dust up

1514

00:57:49,510 --> 00:57:47,359

a big old cloud and you can see

1515

00:57:53,750 --> 00:57:49,520

right away in the background there

1516

00:57:55,109 --> 00:57:53,760

is a geologist and scientists dream

1517

00:57:57,270 --> 00:57:55,119

outcrop

1518

00:57:58,870 --> 00:57:57,280

and those of you that have been part of

1519

00:58:01,109 --> 00:57:58,880

the part of the mars missions know of

1520

00:58:02,150 --> 00:58:01,119

course that scientists go crazy for

1521

00:58:03,990 --> 00:58:02,160

outcrop

1522

00:58:06,069 --> 00:58:04,000

because it actually gives us some

1523

00:58:09,270 --> 00:58:06,079

geological context for what's actually

1524

00:58:11,270 --> 00:58:09,280

going on in the environment and so when

1525

00:58:14,309 --> 00:58:11,280

we got the uh the footage back and we're

1526

00:58:16,710 --> 00:58:14,319

able to piece together the images

1527

00:58:19,109 --> 00:58:16,720

this is what we saw uh in all of the

1528

00:58:21,030 --> 00:58:19,119

other regions in the mariana trench

1529

00:58:23,109 --> 00:58:21,040

for the most part all that had been seen

1530

00:58:25,190 --> 00:58:23,119

are just these sediment beds

1531

00:58:27,750 --> 00:58:25,200

no actual

1532

00:58:30,309 --> 00:58:27,760

indigenous rocks that we could then

1533

00:58:32,789 --> 00:58:30,319

connect geochemistry to

1534

00:58:35,510 --> 00:58:32,799

and what astonished us even more is that

1535

00:58:36,950 --> 00:58:35,520

when you zoom in on these rocks to the

1536

00:58:39,190 --> 00:58:36,960

right there

1537

00:58:40,309 --> 00:58:39,200

this is what you see

1538

00:58:41,430 --> 00:58:40,319

yeah

1539

00:58:43,510 --> 00:58:41,440

uh

1540

00:58:45,190 --> 00:58:43,520

we're calling these the bearded rocks of

1541

00:58:46,230 --> 00:58:45,200

the cyrena deep

1542

00:58:48,829 --> 00:58:46,240

because

1543

00:58:51,510 --> 00:58:48,839

they they look like sort of a fuzzy

1544

00:58:53,990 --> 00:58:51,520

rock and our current

1545

00:58:56,309 --> 00:58:54,000

um hypothesis and and the evidence

1546

00:58:58,870 --> 00:58:56,319

supports this so far is that

1547

00:59:02,549 --> 00:58:58,880

these filaments coming off of these

1548

00:59:04,789 --> 00:59:02,559

rocks are microbial mats

1549

00:59:07,589 --> 00:59:04,799

that are metabolizing

1550

00:59:09,589 --> 00:59:07,599

fluids that are slowly percolating up

1551
00:59:14,069 --> 00:59:09,599
from the from the ocean floor

1552
00:59:14,870 --> 00:59:14,079
below and from those rocks uh utilizing

1553
00:59:17,109 --> 00:59:14,880
uh

1554
00:59:18,470 --> 00:59:17,119
the the effluent from this this process

1555
00:59:19,750 --> 00:59:18,480
of serpentinization that i mentioned

1556
00:59:22,789 --> 00:59:19,760
before

1557
00:59:25,589 --> 00:59:22,799
and so we think that in the deepest

1558
00:59:27,349 --> 00:59:25,599
region of our own ocean

1559
00:59:29,190 --> 00:59:27,359
this exothermic process of

1560
00:59:32,950 --> 00:59:29,200
serpentinization

1561
00:59:36,630 --> 00:59:32,960
is providing the chemical energy needed

1562
00:59:37,910 --> 00:59:36,640
to help sustain a microbial ecosystem

1563
00:59:40,069 --> 00:59:37,920

that is then

1564

00:59:41,910 --> 00:59:40,079

sustaining those complex creatures those

1565

00:59:42,870 --> 00:59:41,920

amphipods that i showed you in the

1566

00:59:44,870 --> 00:59:42,880

previous

1567

00:59:46,870 --> 00:59:44,880

video

1568

00:59:49,990 --> 00:59:46,880

which is

1569

00:59:51,750 --> 00:59:50,000

evidence of not just a simple ecosystem

1570

00:59:55,349 --> 00:59:51,760

in one of the the harshest environments

1571

00:59:58,309 --> 00:59:55,359

on earth but but a quite a complex and

1572

01:00:02,470 --> 00:59:58,319

involved ecosystem in the deepest depths

1573

01:00:03,750 --> 01:00:02,480

of our ocean in a region that is

1574

01:00:05,910 --> 01:00:03,760

as close

1575

01:00:07,829 --> 01:00:05,920

to europa's seafloor as we can get on

1576

01:00:09,829 --> 01:00:07,839

earth

1577

01:00:11,990 --> 01:00:09,839

so how does this all add up for what we

1578

01:00:12,950 --> 01:00:12,000

want to do on europa

1579

01:00:15,270 --> 01:00:12,960

well

1580

01:00:17,030 --> 01:00:15,280

i'll give you my dream of dreams

1581

01:00:19,510 --> 01:00:17,040

in the dream scenario

1582

01:00:21,750 --> 01:00:19,520

some decades from now

1583

01:00:23,829 --> 01:00:21,760

we will deploy some

1584

01:00:25,030 --> 01:00:23,839

highly capable lander

1585

01:00:27,589 --> 01:00:25,040

that

1586

01:00:28,950 --> 01:00:27,599

brilliant engineers at nasa and jpl are

1587

01:00:29,990 --> 01:00:28,960

able to design

1588

01:00:32,870 --> 01:00:30,000

that can

1589

01:00:35,990 --> 01:00:32,880

negotiate the

1590

01:00:38,150 --> 01:00:36,000

the surface of europa avoiding cliffs

1591

01:00:40,789 --> 01:00:38,160

and boulders

1592

01:00:44,470 --> 01:00:40,799

finding a nice

1593

01:00:47,430 --> 01:00:44,480

soft and and flat landing spot

1594

01:00:49,750 --> 01:00:47,440

deploying a melt probe with some sort of

1595

01:00:52,069 --> 01:00:49,760

uh heat source on the front end to to

1596

01:00:53,670 --> 01:00:52,079

melt through the ice

1597

01:00:55,510 --> 01:00:53,680

going all the way through that ice

1598

01:00:58,069 --> 01:00:55,520

leaving behind a fiber optic cure or

1599

01:01:00,150 --> 01:00:58,079

some other communication cable to to

1600

01:01:02,950 --> 01:01:00,160

send data back to the surface

1601
01:01:05,270 --> 01:01:02,960
it reaches the ocean

1602
01:01:07,829 --> 01:01:05,280
deploys that front end nose cone and out

1603
01:01:09,109 --> 01:01:07,839
pops this autonomous underwater vehicle

1604
01:01:11,030 --> 01:01:09,119
we're of course not going to be able to

1605
01:01:14,150 --> 01:01:11,040
joystick this from from earth so this

1606
01:01:15,750 --> 01:01:14,160
thing would have to be quite autonomous

1607
01:01:17,270 --> 01:01:15,760
it gets down to the bottom of the sea

1608
01:01:20,789 --> 01:01:17,280
floor

1609
01:01:22,230 --> 01:01:20,799
and at least in our imax hollywood

1610
01:01:25,430 --> 01:01:22,240
version

1611
01:01:27,670 --> 01:01:25,440
we then find not only hydrothermal vents

1612
01:01:30,150 --> 01:01:27,680
but happy creatures

1613
01:01:33,190 --> 01:01:30,160

uh that are delighted to see us

1614

01:01:35,910 --> 01:01:33,200

and we have revolutionized the uh

1615

01:01:38,710 --> 01:01:35,920

the science of biology

1616

01:01:40,950 --> 01:01:38,720

so that is the dream of dreams um of

1617

01:01:43,670 --> 01:01:40,960

course we have many steps to take

1618

01:01:46,069 --> 01:01:43,680

to make that possible

1619

01:01:48,069 --> 01:01:46,079

and right now of course

1620

01:01:49,589 --> 01:01:48,079

nasa and jpl are in the process of

1621

01:01:51,270 --> 01:01:49,599

studying

1622

01:01:53,270 --> 01:01:51,280

various types of missions that would get

1623

01:01:56,309 --> 01:01:53,280

us back out to europa

1624

01:01:59,029 --> 01:01:56,319

and we're optimistic that uh within the

1625

01:02:01,589 --> 01:01:59,039

next decade or so we will return to this

1626
01:02:02,470 --> 01:02:01,599
incredibly compelling world that that

1627
01:02:03,829 --> 01:02:02,480
could

1628
01:02:06,870 --> 01:02:03,839
harbor life

1629
01:02:08,870 --> 01:02:06,880
and so i'd like to close

1630
01:02:10,630 --> 01:02:08,880
with

1631
01:02:14,950 --> 01:02:10,640
one of my favorite images from the from

1632
01:02:19,029 --> 01:02:16,150
it's

1633
01:02:20,549 --> 01:02:19,039
an image carved

1634
01:02:22,150 --> 01:02:20,559
by

1635
01:02:23,349 --> 01:02:22,160
none other

1636
01:02:25,510 --> 01:02:23,359
than

1637
01:02:31,349 --> 01:02:25,520
galileo galilei

1638
01:02:36,549 --> 01:02:34,150

it's an image that galileo carefully

1639

01:02:41,589 --> 01:02:36,559

traced out night after night

1640

01:02:41,599 --> 01:02:46,150

there we go

1641

01:02:50,630 --> 01:02:47,430

there we are

1642

01:02:53,029 --> 01:02:50,640

um as you all know galileo turned his

1643

01:02:55,270 --> 01:02:53,039

telescope to the night sky

1644

01:02:57,349 --> 01:02:55,280

and carefully charted

1645

01:02:59,670 --> 01:02:57,359

jupiter and

1646

01:03:03,510 --> 01:02:59,680

he noticed these four tiny little specks

1647

01:03:06,150 --> 01:03:03,520

of light around jupiter now of course in

1648

01:03:07,270 --> 01:03:06,160

the in the early days of his uh

1649

01:03:09,270 --> 01:03:07,280

um

1650

01:03:11,029 --> 01:03:09,280

charting these little points of light he

1651
01:03:12,150 --> 01:03:11,039
initially thought that they were stars

1652
01:03:15,190 --> 01:03:12,160
and so

1653
01:03:16,710 --> 01:03:15,200
he named them the stars of medici

1654
01:03:19,270 --> 01:03:16,720
galileo was of course funded by the

1655
01:03:21,349 --> 01:03:19,280
medici family and he was no idiot so he

1656
01:03:23,190 --> 01:03:21,359
knew that

1657
01:03:25,430 --> 01:03:23,200
to keep the money rolling he should he

1658
01:03:28,230 --> 01:03:25,440
should uh

1659
01:03:30,710 --> 01:03:28,240
name something after his sponsor

1660
01:03:32,150 --> 01:03:30,720
but he soon realized that these stars

1661
01:03:34,710 --> 01:03:32,160
were moving

1662
01:03:36,630 --> 01:03:34,720
and night after night he charted them

1663
01:03:39,109 --> 01:03:36,640

and determined that in fact

1664

01:03:40,870 --> 01:03:39,119

those four little dots were not stars

1665

01:03:43,109 --> 01:03:40,880

they were moons they were moons of

1666

01:03:45,829 --> 01:03:43,119

jupiter and if jupiter had moons

1667

01:03:48,390 --> 01:03:45,839

then then it

1668

01:03:51,109 --> 01:03:48,400

must be similar to the earth

1669

01:03:54,150 --> 01:03:51,119

because of course earth had been

1670

01:03:57,029 --> 01:03:54,160

up until that point the only world that

1671

01:03:58,390 --> 01:03:57,039

had a moon and so if things were going

1672

01:04:01,910 --> 01:03:58,400

around jupiter

1673

01:04:02,710 --> 01:04:01,920

then that went against that aristotelian

1674

01:04:04,630 --> 01:04:02,720

view

1675

01:04:07,190 --> 01:04:04,640

of the earth being the center around

1676

01:04:09,670 --> 01:04:07,200

which everything else revolved

1677

01:04:13,510 --> 01:04:09,680

so with his careful charting of not just

1678

01:04:16,710 --> 01:04:13,520

jupiter but of course venus and the moon

1679

01:04:18,549 --> 01:04:16,720

galileo was able to put the final nail

1680

01:04:20,789 --> 01:04:18,559

in the coffin of aristo

1681

01:04:23,510 --> 01:04:20,799

aristotelian cosmology

1682

01:04:26,390 --> 01:04:23,520

and open the doorway to the copernican

1683

01:04:28,789 --> 01:04:26,400

revolution

1684

01:04:30,710 --> 01:04:28,799

and in the decades that would follow

1685

01:04:33,910 --> 01:04:30,720

galileo

1686

01:04:34,870 --> 01:04:33,920

we would come to learn and appreciate

1687

01:04:36,870 --> 01:04:34,880

that

1688

01:04:37,990 --> 01:04:36,880

the laws of physics

1689

01:04:40,470 --> 01:04:38,000

apply

1690

01:04:43,029 --> 01:04:40,480

not just here on earth but also

1691

01:04:44,710 --> 01:04:43,039

to these worlds and wonders beyond the

1692

01:04:46,630 --> 01:04:44,720

earth

1693

01:04:49,029 --> 01:04:46,640

and in the decades and centuries after

1694

01:04:51,349 --> 01:04:49,039

that with the advent of of spectroscopy

1695

01:04:53,990 --> 01:04:51,359

and new techniques for studying stars

1696

01:04:57,029 --> 01:04:54,000

and planets

1697

01:04:59,270 --> 01:04:57,039

would come to appreciate that

1698

01:05:00,789 --> 01:04:59,280

the principles of chemistry

1699

01:05:02,710 --> 01:05:00,799

apply

1700

01:05:05,510 --> 01:05:02,720

not just here on earth

1701
01:05:07,430 --> 01:05:05,520
but also on worlds and wonders beyond

1702
01:05:10,950 --> 01:05:07,440
the earth

1703
01:05:12,950 --> 01:05:10,960
and then with the advent of our robotic

1704
01:05:15,029 --> 01:05:12,960
exploration of the solar system

1705
01:05:17,750 --> 01:05:15,039
and our investigation of worlds like

1706
01:05:19,750 --> 01:05:17,760
mars and and mercury and venus

1707
01:05:22,630 --> 01:05:19,760
we would come to appreciate that the

1708
01:05:24,150 --> 01:05:22,640
principles of geology

1709
01:05:26,470 --> 01:05:24,160
apply

1710
01:05:29,270 --> 01:05:26,480
not just here on earth but also to these

1711
01:05:31,430 --> 01:05:29,280
worlds and wonders beyond earth

1712
01:05:34,150 --> 01:05:31,440
but when it comes to this

1713
01:05:37,829 --> 01:05:34,160

bizarre little thing we call life when

1714

01:05:40,870 --> 01:05:37,839

it comes to the the phenomenon of

1715

01:05:42,549 --> 01:05:40,880

life when it comes to the science of

1716

01:05:45,349 --> 01:05:42,559

biology

1717

01:05:49,589 --> 01:05:45,359

we have yet to make that leap

1718

01:05:53,190 --> 01:05:49,599

we don't yet know whether or not biology

1719

01:05:55,270 --> 01:05:53,200

works on worlds and wonders beyond earth

1720

01:05:56,390 --> 01:05:55,280

we have every reason to believe that it

1721

01:05:58,309 --> 01:05:56,400

should

1722

01:06:01,349 --> 01:05:58,319

our study of life on earth

1723

01:06:02,549 --> 01:06:01,359

leads us to think that that

1724

01:06:04,390 --> 01:06:02,559

life

1725

01:06:06,150 --> 01:06:04,400

is likely

1726

01:06:08,710 --> 01:06:06,160

everywhere where the conditions are

1727

01:06:11,270 --> 01:06:08,720

right but we have yet to do that

1728

01:06:13,750 --> 01:06:11,280

experiment

1729

01:06:14,710 --> 01:06:13,760

and part of what excites me

1730

01:06:17,029 --> 01:06:14,720

about

1731

01:06:19,029 --> 01:06:17,039

the time in which we live

1732

01:06:21,990 --> 01:06:19,039

part of what excites me about

1733

01:06:23,990 --> 01:06:22,000

the next few decades

1734

01:06:26,150 --> 01:06:24,000

is that for the first time in the

1735

01:06:29,670 --> 01:06:26,160

history of humanity

1736

01:06:31,029 --> 01:06:29,680

we have the tools and technology

1737

01:06:33,829 --> 01:06:31,039

to answer

1738

01:06:37,670 --> 01:06:33,839

this age-old question of whether or not

1739

01:06:40,069 --> 01:06:37,680

we are in fact alone in the universe

1740

01:06:42,870 --> 01:06:40,079

and so i hope that some

1741

01:06:45,109 --> 01:06:42,880

400 years from now

1742

01:06:47,910 --> 01:06:45,119

our descendants

1743

01:06:49,349 --> 01:06:47,920

we'll be able to look back at this time

1744

01:06:51,190 --> 01:06:49,359

in much the same way that we can look

1745

01:06:52,710 --> 01:06:51,200

back at the at the revolution that

1746

01:06:54,789 --> 01:06:52,720

galileo's

1747

01:06:56,950 --> 01:06:54,799

work began

1748

01:06:59,589 --> 01:06:56,960

our descendants some 400 years from now

1749

01:07:02,309 --> 01:06:59,599

will be able to look back

1750

01:07:05,190 --> 01:07:02,319

at this time in the history of human

1751

01:07:08,069 --> 01:07:05,200

exploration and scientific discovery

1752

01:07:11,829 --> 01:07:08,079

not just this time this place

1753

01:07:14,390 --> 01:07:11,839

the jpl a premier place in helping to

1754

01:07:16,390 --> 01:07:14,400

achieve the the exploration and the

1755

01:07:17,430 --> 01:07:16,400

science that needs to be done to to

1756

01:07:19,670 --> 01:07:17,440

advance

1757

01:07:21,589 --> 01:07:19,680

these kind of of discoveries

1758

01:07:23,589 --> 01:07:21,599

i hope our descendants will be able to

1759

01:07:26,150 --> 01:07:23,599

look back at this time

1760

01:07:27,589 --> 01:07:26,160

in this place and say

1761

01:07:28,870 --> 01:07:27,599

it was then

1762

01:07:31,190 --> 01:07:28,880

it was there

1763

01:07:32,549 --> 01:07:31,200

it was through the perseverance and the

1764

01:07:34,710 --> 01:07:32,559

exploration

1765

01:07:36,870 --> 01:07:34,720

that the discoveries were made that

1766

01:07:59,190 --> 01:07:36,880

brought the universe to life

1767

01:08:01,910 --> 01:08:00,870

so we may have a little bit of time for

1768

01:08:03,349 --> 01:08:01,920

questions and i think there's a

1769

01:08:04,870 --> 01:08:03,359

microphone there so if you have a

1770

01:08:13,750 --> 01:08:04,880

question to ask please if you would go

1771

01:08:17,910 --> 01:08:15,430

uh my name is abhi and i'm a summer

1772

01:08:20,229 --> 01:08:17,920

intern here at jpl my question is that

1773

01:08:22,229 --> 01:08:20,239

in a in a not completely unlikely event

1774

01:08:24,309 --> 01:08:22,239

of future nasa missions to europe are

1775

01:08:25,510 --> 01:08:24,319

being pushed further into future due to

1776

01:08:27,349 --> 01:08:25,520

budget cuts

1777

01:08:29,189 --> 01:08:27,359

what level of merit do you see in a

1778

01:08:32,309 --> 01:08:29,199

flyby mission to europa which could just

1779

01:08:34,309 --> 01:08:32,319

sniff the water plumes and maybe deduce

1780

01:08:35,349 --> 01:08:34,319

the chemistry lying beneath the icy

1781

01:08:36,789 --> 01:08:35,359

shell

1782

01:08:41,189 --> 01:08:36,799

yeah so

1783

01:08:46,550 --> 01:08:43,189

we don't yet have

1784

01:08:48,229 --> 01:08:46,560

definitive evidence of

1785

01:08:49,829 --> 01:08:48,239

plumes

1786

01:08:51,669 --> 01:08:49,839

that that we could then direct a

1787

01:08:55,349 --> 01:08:51,679

spacecraft to

1788

01:08:56,390 --> 01:08:55,359

i think that plumes are likely there

1789

01:08:58,870 --> 01:08:56,400

but

1790

01:08:59,990 --> 01:08:58,880

if we were just to do a quick and dirty

1791

01:09:02,870 --> 01:09:00,000

mission

1792

01:09:04,870 --> 01:09:02,880

that's very simple

1793

01:09:06,390 --> 01:09:04,880

it would be a little bit hard to know

1794

01:09:07,990 --> 01:09:06,400

exactly

1795

01:09:09,030 --> 01:09:08,000

where the best place is to capture

1796

01:09:16,309 --> 01:09:09,040

material

1797

01:09:18,950 --> 01:09:17,349

hello

1798

01:09:20,550 --> 01:09:18,960

in regard to

1799

01:09:21,430 --> 01:09:20,560

the auroras

1800

01:09:23,189 --> 01:09:21,440

of

1801
01:09:24,950 --> 01:09:23,199
europa

1802
01:09:27,430 --> 01:09:24,960
is it possible

1803
01:09:29,590 --> 01:09:27,440
that they will discover

1804
01:09:31,590 --> 01:09:29,600
microbial life

1805
01:09:32,709 --> 01:09:31,600
in the plumes of

1806
01:09:35,510 --> 01:09:32,719
europa

1807
01:09:37,110 --> 01:09:35,520
like they have uh discovered it in

1808
01:09:38,550 --> 01:09:37,120
enceladus

1809
01:09:41,030 --> 01:09:38,560
well so

1810
01:09:42,709 --> 01:09:41,040
at enceladus we haven't yet found life

1811
01:09:44,390 --> 01:09:42,719
in the in the plume water but we have

1812
01:09:47,030 --> 01:09:44,400
found some some compelling organic

1813
01:09:49,030 --> 01:09:47,040

chemistry and that of course makes

1814

01:09:50,229 --> 01:09:49,040

enceladus an incredibly exciting target

1815

01:09:51,749 --> 01:09:50,239

to go back to

1816

01:09:54,149 --> 01:09:51,759

and i want to explore all of these

1817

01:09:55,750 --> 01:09:54,159

worlds uh in my opinion we should be

1818

01:09:57,510 --> 01:09:55,760

getting spacecraft out there doing

1819

01:09:58,470 --> 01:09:57,520

science uh all throughout the solar

1820

01:09:59,910 --> 01:09:58,480

system

1821

01:10:01,270 --> 01:09:59,920

and um

1822

01:10:02,630 --> 01:10:01,280

and so

1823

01:10:04,229 --> 01:10:02,640

one of the

1824

01:10:07,350 --> 01:10:04,239

but but the fundamental of your question

1825

01:10:08,950 --> 01:10:07,360

now could if there was microbial life in

1826

01:10:10,790 --> 01:10:08,960

the in the ocean

1827

01:10:13,189 --> 01:10:10,800

would it be ejected out and and could we

1828

01:10:14,950 --> 01:10:13,199

be able to would we be able to catch it

1829

01:10:16,870 --> 01:10:14,960

um

1830

01:10:19,270 --> 01:10:16,880

at this point in time we don't really

1831

01:10:20,390 --> 01:10:19,280

know we're doing some experiments to try

1832

01:10:22,870 --> 01:10:20,400

and see

1833

01:10:24,630 --> 01:10:22,880

uh whether or not for instance in

1834

01:10:26,149 --> 01:10:24,640

earth's ocean if you took

1835

01:10:29,510 --> 01:10:26,159

the microbial

1836

01:10:31,270 --> 01:10:29,520

cell densities in earth's ocean water

1837

01:10:34,310 --> 01:10:31,280

and pretended that that was europa's

1838

01:10:36,229 --> 01:10:34,320

ocean water or enceladus ocean water

1839

01:10:37,669 --> 01:10:36,239

how much

1840

01:10:39,750 --> 01:10:37,679

material would you have to collect

1841

01:10:41,669 --> 01:10:39,760

before you captured one cell

1842

01:10:42,950 --> 01:10:41,679

we don't know the answer to that quite

1843

01:10:44,310 --> 01:10:42,960

yet but

1844

01:10:45,669 --> 01:10:44,320

but that's part of the work that we're

1845

01:10:46,790 --> 01:10:45,679

doing to sort of fold into these

1846

01:10:47,830 --> 01:10:46,800

missions

1847

01:10:52,470 --> 01:10:47,840

thank you

1848

01:10:57,669 --> 01:10:55,669

could you tell me anything about the

1849

01:10:59,350 --> 01:10:57,679

work or if there is any work being done

1850

01:11:02,390 --> 01:10:59,360

to look deeper

1851

01:11:04,149 --> 01:11:02,400

into the hydrothermal vents themselves

1852

01:11:06,149 --> 01:11:04,159

you know we look at them when they reach

1853

01:11:07,910 --> 01:11:06,159

the open ocean

1854

01:11:10,470 --> 01:11:07,920

i don't know how much water content you

1855

01:11:11,510 --> 01:11:10,480

have and what's being pumped out of them

1856

01:11:13,430 --> 01:11:11,520

but

1857

01:11:16,470 --> 01:11:13,440

you know what is there a possibility of

1858

01:11:18,870 --> 01:11:16,480

life deeper within those systems and is

1859

01:11:20,310 --> 01:11:18,880

there a way to actually plumb them with

1860

01:11:21,830 --> 01:11:20,320

instrumentation

1861

01:11:24,390 --> 01:11:21,840

yeah that's a that's a great question

1862

01:11:27,750 --> 01:11:24,400

and and there is uh some very nice work

1863

01:11:31,430 --> 01:11:27,760

being done uh a number of different

1864

01:11:34,070 --> 01:11:31,440

institutions uh woods hall um

1865

01:11:35,669 --> 01:11:34,080

university of washington seattle scripps

1866

01:11:37,030 --> 01:11:35,679

uh usc

1867

01:11:40,390 --> 01:11:37,040

uh and there's a project called the

1868

01:11:43,030 --> 01:11:40,400

ocean drilling program that has as

1869

01:11:45,590 --> 01:11:43,040

sort of a a component of it looking in

1870

01:11:46,950 --> 01:11:45,600

areas that uh that have or had

1871

01:11:48,149 --> 01:11:46,960

hydrothermal vents

1872

01:11:50,149 --> 01:11:48,159

um

1873

01:11:52,390 --> 01:11:50,159

but this sort of folds into

1874

01:11:55,350 --> 01:11:52,400

a passion of mine which is developing

1875

01:11:56,870 --> 01:11:55,360

the robotic tools to do exactly what

1876

01:11:58,630 --> 01:11:56,880

you're saying

1877

01:12:01,669 --> 01:11:58,640

so we can actually kind of

1878

01:12:03,510 --> 01:12:01,679

dive even deeper into the into the the

1879

01:12:05,430 --> 01:12:03,520

channels of

1880

01:12:08,950 --> 01:12:05,440

of water that are that are being cycled

1881

01:12:11,030 --> 01:12:08,960

up through our ocean floor

1882

01:12:12,550 --> 01:12:11,040

hi my name is andrew i'm a summer intern

1883

01:12:15,189 --> 01:12:12,560

a great presentation it was really

1884

01:12:17,350 --> 01:12:15,199

interesting and i just have one question

1885

01:12:19,270 --> 01:12:17,360

if regardless of whether or not we drill

1886

01:12:20,630 --> 01:12:19,280

down and find life or not once we do

1887

01:12:22,550 --> 01:12:20,640

drill down we're going to likely

1888

01:12:24,709 --> 01:12:22,560

contaminate what's in there so what are

1889

01:12:26,229 --> 01:12:24,719

some means that jpl and nasa are working

1890

01:12:28,149 --> 01:12:26,239

with to prevent that from happening

1891

01:12:29,110 --> 01:12:28,159

thank you yeah that's a great question

1892

01:12:33,750 --> 01:12:29,120

um

1893

01:12:38,470 --> 01:12:33,760

the

1894

01:12:40,310 --> 01:12:38,480

planetary protection officer at nasa

1895

01:12:42,709 --> 01:12:40,320

headquarters

1896

01:12:44,390 --> 01:12:42,719

worked very closely on addressing these

1897

01:12:46,790 --> 01:12:44,400

issues and any mission

1898

01:12:49,590 --> 01:12:46,800

that would go

1899

01:12:52,709 --> 01:12:49,600

near europa or onto the surface

1900

01:12:55,990 --> 01:12:53,830

undergo

1901

01:12:58,310 --> 01:12:56,000

a lot of cleaning and sterilization to

1902

01:12:59,590 --> 01:12:58,320

make sure that we don't bring any earth

1903

01:13:01,910 --> 01:12:59,600

microbes

1904

01:13:03,590 --> 01:13:01,920

to that potentially habitable ocean

1905

01:13:05,430 --> 01:13:03,600

because of course the last thing we want

1906

01:13:06,870 --> 01:13:05,440

to do is

1907

01:13:08,790 --> 01:13:06,880

find a false positive we don't want to

1908

01:13:12,149 --> 01:13:08,800

go all the way to europa and find an

1909

01:13:13,510 --> 01:13:12,159

earth microbe and more importantly

1910

01:13:16,630 --> 01:13:13,520

we don't want to

1911

01:13:18,790 --> 01:13:16,640

destroy europa for the europeans

1912

01:13:20,790 --> 01:13:18,800

you know it's a if they've got something

1913

01:13:22,229 --> 01:13:20,800

going on in that ocean we should we

1914

01:13:24,709 --> 01:13:22,239

should let them keep doing what they're

1915

01:13:27,270 --> 01:13:25,910

i was wondering if you can calculate

1916

01:13:29,189 --> 01:13:27,280

theoretically the thickness of the

1917

01:13:30,470 --> 01:13:29,199

isolator on europa based on the tidal

1918

01:13:31,910 --> 01:13:30,480

energy

1919

01:13:33,910 --> 01:13:31,920

and the temperature receives from the

1920

01:13:36,229 --> 01:13:33,920

sun yeah um

1921

01:13:37,430 --> 01:13:36,239

that's a that's another great question

1922

01:13:39,750 --> 01:13:37,440

it's um

1923

01:13:41,510 --> 01:13:39,760

there are dozens of papers published on

1924

01:13:43,669 --> 01:13:41,520

the topic and

1925

01:13:46,390 --> 01:13:43,679

not much of a consensus has been reached

1926

01:13:48,470 --> 01:13:46,400

uh in part because

1927

01:13:50,630 --> 01:13:48,480

different processes happen

1928

01:13:52,470 --> 01:13:50,640

for slightly different thicknesses in

1929

01:13:54,709 --> 01:13:52,480

terms of convection and conduction of

1930

01:13:56,790 --> 01:13:54,719

heat out from the interior

1931

01:13:58,870 --> 01:13:56,800

and so

1932

01:14:00,950 --> 01:13:58,880

some scientists think that europa's

1933

01:14:03,590 --> 01:14:00,960

ocean europa's ice shell

1934

01:14:06,070 --> 01:14:03,600

is say 15 kilometers in thickness

1935

01:14:09,430 --> 01:14:06,080

and much of that 15 kilometers

1936

01:14:11,590 --> 01:14:09,440

is ice that is slowly convecting to

1937

01:14:13,350 --> 01:14:11,600

transport heat and then it's overlaying

1938

01:14:14,870 --> 01:14:13,360

by a brittle lid

1939

01:14:17,110 --> 01:14:14,880

other scientists think that it's

1940

01:14:19,350 --> 01:14:17,120

actually quite a thin shell maybe a few

1941

01:14:21,030 --> 01:14:19,360

kilometers in thickness and most of the

1942

01:14:22,310 --> 01:14:21,040

heat is being dissipated via via

1943

01:14:24,070 --> 01:14:22,320

conduction

1944

01:14:25,669 --> 01:14:24,080

so

1945

01:14:27,910 --> 01:14:25,679

it's a topic of much debate and it's one

1946

01:14:29,669 --> 01:14:27,920

of the key questions that any future

1947

01:14:33,910 --> 01:14:29,679

mission would uh

1948

01:14:37,030 --> 01:14:35,030

hello thank you so much for your

1949

01:14:39,350 --> 01:14:37,040

presentations really wonderful and by

1950

01:14:41,350 --> 01:14:39,360

the way i really enjoyed europa report

1951

01:14:43,270 --> 01:14:41,360

okay well thank you everybody should see

1952

01:14:44,390 --> 01:14:43,280

it i wanted to ask you about the

1953

01:14:45,669 --> 01:14:44,400

interesting news that came out a few

1954

01:14:47,270 --> 01:14:45,679

months ago from the university of

1955

01:14:49,350 --> 01:14:47,280

washington of a paper

1956

01:14:51,110 --> 01:14:49,360

that talked about um

1957

01:14:52,390 --> 01:14:51,120

the ability to find certain molecules

1958

01:14:54,550 --> 01:14:52,400

and distant planets potentially

1959

01:14:56,709 --> 01:14:54,560

exoplanets that could be indicators of

1960

01:14:58,630 --> 01:14:56,719

life and i'd

1961

01:15:01,510 --> 01:14:58,640

correct me is it dimer molecules or

1962

01:15:03,270 --> 01:15:01,520

dimmer molecules dimers yeah

1963

01:15:04,790 --> 01:15:03,280

and is that something that's relevant to

1964

01:15:06,390 --> 01:15:04,800

europa or enceladus or any of these

1965

01:15:08,149 --> 01:15:06,400

outer ocean worlds and and where are we

1966

01:15:10,070 --> 01:15:08,159

getting in terms of our

1967

01:15:11,669 --> 01:15:10,080

space telescopes potentially the james

1968

01:15:13,990 --> 01:15:11,679

webb in terms of being able to detect

1969

01:15:15,350 --> 01:15:14,000

those molecules on worlds even farther

1970

01:15:17,350 --> 01:15:15,360

out that may indicate the presence of

1971

01:15:18,790 --> 01:15:17,360

life or photosynthesis or

1972

01:15:19,830 --> 01:15:18,800

something happening on one of those

1973

01:15:21,270 --> 01:15:19,840

planets that might be interesting to

1974

01:15:23,350 --> 01:15:21,280

explore further

1975

01:15:25,990 --> 01:15:23,360

yeah here again i wish we could be

1976

01:15:27,590 --> 01:15:26,000

moving faster

1977

01:15:29,990 --> 01:15:27,600

there are ground-based telescopes the

1978

01:15:31,910 --> 01:15:30,000

30-millimeter telescope out in hawaii of

1979

01:15:33,990 --> 01:15:31,920

course james webb

1980

01:15:35,030 --> 01:15:34,000

and potentially some

1981

01:15:37,590 --> 01:15:35,040

some

1982

01:15:39,830 --> 01:15:37,600

smaller space-based telescopes that that

1983

01:15:41,110 --> 01:15:39,840

will come online

1984

01:15:43,350 --> 01:15:41,120

in the not too distant future that will

1985

01:15:46,390 --> 01:15:43,360

help be able to do spectroscopy of of

1986

01:15:47,830 --> 01:15:46,400

these um exoplanet atmospheres

1987

01:15:49,350 --> 01:15:47,840

uh

1988

01:15:51,830 --> 01:15:49,360

i wish we could move faster on that

1989

01:15:53,750 --> 01:15:51,840

because it's such a fascinating area for

1990

01:15:58,390 --> 01:15:53,760

exploration

1991

01:16:01,910 --> 01:16:01,110

when we do eventually find

1992

01:16:16,070 --> 01:16:01,920

a

1993

01:16:17,990 --> 01:16:16,080

left

1994

01:16:19,510 --> 01:16:18,000

unless we train our radio telescopes or

1995

01:16:21,110 --> 01:16:19,520

our optical telescopes and find some

1996

01:16:22,630 --> 01:16:21,120

steady signal of intelligent

1997

01:16:24,310 --> 01:16:22,640

civilizations there

1998

01:16:26,709 --> 01:16:24,320

that one of the limitations of

1999

01:16:28,950 --> 01:16:26,719

exoplanets or one of the defining

2000

01:16:30,390 --> 01:16:28,960

attributes is that they are far away

2001
01:16:32,149 --> 01:16:30,400
and so

2002
01:16:35,189 --> 01:16:32,159
someday we will know

2003
01:16:36,709 --> 01:16:35,199
that there's a

2004
01:16:39,430 --> 01:16:36,719
habitable planet out there but then it

2005
01:16:42,149 --> 01:16:39,440
will take us a long time to get there if

2006
01:16:44,630 --> 01:16:42,159
they're not beaming communications to us

2007
01:16:45,910 --> 01:16:44,640
and that in part is is sort of what drew

2008
01:16:50,229 --> 01:16:45,920
me to

2009
01:16:54,790 --> 01:16:53,750
17 years ago or so at this point

2010
01:16:57,430 --> 01:16:54,800
is that

2011
01:16:59,750 --> 01:16:57,440
worlds like europa and enceladus are

2012
01:17:01,350 --> 01:16:59,760
worlds where we can actually send a

2013
01:17:04,149 --> 01:17:01,360

robotic spacecraft

2014

01:17:06,070 --> 01:17:04,159

to to look for living life and and you

2015

01:17:08,390 --> 01:17:06,080

know something that we can we can touch

2016

01:17:10,149 --> 01:17:08,400

and feel and and determine its

2017

01:17:11,750 --> 01:17:10,159

fundamental biochemistry

2018

01:17:13,830 --> 01:17:11,760

so uh i look forward to future

2019

01:17:15,430 --> 01:17:13,840

discoveries on exoplanets and that will

2020

01:17:17,669 --> 01:17:15,440

be moving along in parallel with our

2021

01:17:19,270 --> 01:17:17,679

exploration of our own solar system

2022

01:17:21,270 --> 01:17:19,280

i hope you get more funding to do it you

2023

01:17:23,750 --> 01:17:21,280

got to get those landers to uh

2024

01:17:24,790 --> 01:17:23,760

to europa oh well thank you we've got

2025

01:17:27,189 --> 01:17:24,800

lots of

2026

01:17:29,990 --> 01:17:27,199

bright young minds that are that are

2027

01:17:33,669 --> 01:17:30,000

uh excited about stem education who

2028

01:17:36,790 --> 01:17:35,830

well again a wonderful talk thank you so

2029

01:17:39,270 --> 01:17:36,800

much

2030

01:17:41,830 --> 01:17:39,280

and my question is i know there's a lot

2031

01:17:43,189 --> 01:17:41,840

of possibilities for the next mission to

2032

01:17:45,110 --> 01:17:43,199

go to europa

2033

01:17:47,590 --> 01:17:45,120

depending on what nasa's funding is what

2034

01:17:49,990 --> 01:17:47,600

congress decides and that sort of thing

2035

01:17:51,270 --> 01:17:50,000

which is a real game sometimes but

2036

01:17:54,390 --> 01:17:51,280

what's the most

2037

01:17:56,630 --> 01:17:54,400

concrete mission that is

2038

01:17:58,790 --> 01:17:56,640

at the forefront of heading out to

2039

01:18:00,870 --> 01:17:58,800

europa at this point where does that

2040

01:18:03,430 --> 01:18:00,880

stand and you know about maybe how long

2041

01:18:05,990 --> 01:18:03,440

it might take to send that off

2042

01:18:10,510 --> 01:18:06,000

yeah so um

2043

01:18:13,270 --> 01:18:10,520

a great resource um is to go to

2044

01:18:15,990 --> 01:18:13,280

europa.jpl.nasa.gov and that's got

2045

01:18:17,430 --> 01:18:16,000

all of the publicly available reports

2046

01:18:20,310 --> 01:18:17,440

and documentation

2047

01:18:22,229 --> 01:18:20,320

and another great resources

2048

01:18:24,070 --> 01:18:22,239

so within nasa there are these

2049

01:18:26,630 --> 01:18:24,080

assessment groups

2050

01:18:28,310 --> 01:18:26,640

for various regions and the outer

2051
01:18:31,110 --> 01:18:28,320
planets assessment group

2052
01:18:31,990 --> 01:18:31,120
or opaque if you just google

2053
01:18:33,910 --> 01:18:32,000
uh

2054
01:18:36,390 --> 01:18:33,920
opaque you'll find

2055
01:18:38,709 --> 01:18:36,400
lots of archived mission studies

2056
01:18:40,390 --> 01:18:38,719
and one of the the studies that

2057
01:18:43,110 --> 01:18:40,400
you'll find there is on the europa

2058
01:18:45,270 --> 01:18:43,120
clipper which is a mission that's being

2059
01:18:48,310 --> 01:18:45,280
studied and

2060
01:18:51,510 --> 01:18:48,320
analyzed here at jpl and other centers

2061
01:18:54,790 --> 01:18:51,520
and that mission would

2062
01:18:56,709 --> 01:18:54,800
if funded it would fly by europa

2063
01:18:58,790 --> 01:18:56,719

and be able to

2064

01:19:01,270 --> 01:18:58,800

examine the surface in great detail both

2065

01:19:03,270 --> 01:19:01,280

with imagery and spectroscopy

2066

01:19:05,830 --> 01:19:03,280

it would potentially utilize ice

2067

01:19:08,550 --> 01:19:05,840

penetrating radar to

2068

01:19:10,630 --> 01:19:08,560

probe into the ice and look for

2069

01:19:14,310 --> 01:19:10,640

water pockets and

2070

01:19:18,070 --> 01:19:15,910

and it would have many other instruments

2071

01:19:20,550 --> 01:19:18,080

that would help us assess the

2072

01:19:22,550 --> 01:19:20,560

habitability of europa so google around

2073

01:19:24,310 --> 01:19:22,560

and look for europa clipper

2074

01:19:25,830 --> 01:19:24,320

and you'll also find all sorts of other

2075

01:19:28,310 --> 01:19:25,840

studies that

2076

01:19:31,510 --> 01:19:28,320

that nasa has done

2077

01:19:33,910 --> 01:19:33,110

and we got a couple of questions from

2078

01:19:37,910 --> 01:19:33,920

the

2079

01:19:39,750 --> 01:19:37,920

web thank you

2080

01:19:41,830 --> 01:19:39,760

is the theory that europa is getting

2081

01:19:43,669 --> 01:19:41,840

geothermal activity from the title

2082

01:19:46,630 --> 01:19:43,679

squeezing of jupiter's gravitational

2083

01:19:48,709 --> 01:19:46,640

pressures yeah so the um

2084

01:19:51,590 --> 01:19:48,719

uh the questions about that title tug

2085

01:19:53,590 --> 01:19:51,600

and pull and

2086

01:19:56,470 --> 01:19:53,600

the reason why we think europa has this

2087

01:19:58,790 --> 01:19:56,480

liquid water ocean is because of that

2088

01:20:00,149 --> 01:19:58,800

that squeezing as europa goes around in

2089

01:20:01,669 --> 01:20:00,159

its slightly

2090

01:20:04,149 --> 01:20:01,679

elliptical orbit

2091

01:20:06,470 --> 01:20:04,159

just imagine io

2092

01:20:09,510 --> 01:20:06,480

but now cover it

2093

01:20:12,070 --> 01:20:09,520

cover it in ice and and

2094

01:20:16,870 --> 01:20:12,080

dial back the volcanism a little bit

2095

01:20:21,910 --> 01:20:20,470

what would europa's energy source be

2096

01:20:24,310 --> 01:20:21,920

for life

2097

01:20:26,390 --> 01:20:24,320

well if europa has an active seafloor

2098

01:20:28,310 --> 01:20:26,400

there could be hydrothermal vents

2099

01:20:31,030 --> 01:20:28,320

but then another aspect of the energy

2100

01:20:33,189 --> 01:20:31,040

equation for habitability on europa

2101

01:20:35,990 --> 01:20:33,199

comes back to the surface

2102

01:20:38,470 --> 01:20:36,000

where some of the work

2103

01:20:40,149 --> 01:20:38,480

i do and my colleagues do here at jpl is

2104

01:20:42,070 --> 01:20:40,159

looking at the surface radiation

2105

01:20:44,310 --> 01:20:42,080

chemistry and we actually know that

2106

01:20:45,270 --> 01:20:44,320

europa's surface ice

2107

01:20:47,669 --> 01:20:45,280

has

2108

01:20:50,390 --> 01:20:47,679

molecular oxygen trapped in it

2109

01:20:53,030 --> 01:20:50,400

it's got sulfate it's got carbon dioxide

2110

01:20:56,229 --> 01:20:53,040

it's got all of these compounds that

2111

01:20:58,229 --> 01:20:56,239

life on earth loves to eat and so if

2112

01:21:02,229 --> 01:20:58,239

some of that surface ice mixes into the

2113

01:21:03,990 --> 01:21:02,239

ocean below that could be a very

2114

01:21:06,550 --> 01:21:04,000

valuable chemical energy resource for

2115

01:21:07,910 --> 01:21:06,560

life within europa

2116

01:21:10,070 --> 01:21:07,920

and i'll just take one more here is

2117

01:21:12,310 --> 01:21:10,080

there any reasonable prospect that we

2118

01:21:14,310 --> 01:21:12,320

might find complex life forms

2119

01:21:17,510 --> 01:21:14,320

in the european ocean like the ones we

2120

01:21:20,390 --> 01:21:17,520

have in earth's hydrothermal vents um

2121

01:21:22,709 --> 01:21:20,400

a very interesting question and um

2122

01:21:24,629 --> 01:21:22,719

from an energy standpoint

2123

01:21:26,709 --> 01:21:24,639

it could be that that

2124

01:21:28,950 --> 01:21:26,719

so complex life on earth

2125

01:21:31,990 --> 01:21:28,960

even at those hydrothermal vents

2126
01:21:34,629 --> 01:21:32,000
it depends on oxygen that is produced

2127
01:21:36,229 --> 01:21:34,639
via photosynthesis so those tube worms

2128
01:21:37,510 --> 01:21:36,239
those shrimp those other creatures that

2129
01:21:39,750 --> 01:21:37,520
you see

2130
01:21:41,430 --> 01:21:39,760
they are breathing oxygen that's

2131
01:21:42,550 --> 01:21:41,440
dissolved in the ocean water and that

2132
01:21:44,950 --> 01:21:42,560
oxygen

2133
01:21:46,390 --> 01:21:44,960
comes from photosynthesis on the surface

2134
01:21:48,149 --> 01:21:46,400
of the earth

2135
01:21:50,390 --> 01:21:48,159
on europa we're not going to have

2136
01:21:51,430 --> 01:21:50,400
necessarily photosynthesis generating

2137
01:21:54,790 --> 01:21:51,440
oxygen

2138
01:21:57,110 --> 01:21:54,800

but we do have this radiation chemistry

2139

01:22:00,149 --> 01:21:57,120

that is bombarding europa's surface

2140

01:22:02,070 --> 01:22:00,159

producing uh that molecular oxygen that

2141

01:22:03,669 --> 01:22:02,080

that i mentioned and so if some of that

2142

01:22:05,510 --> 01:22:03,679

molecular oxygen

2143

01:22:08,709 --> 01:22:05,520

is mixed into the ocean

2144

01:22:11,030 --> 01:22:08,719

there could be enough oxygen

2145

01:22:12,310 --> 01:22:11,040

to potentially power complex life as we

2146

01:22:14,709 --> 01:22:12,320

know it

2147

01:22:17,189 --> 01:22:14,719

but from an evolutionary standpoint

2148

01:22:18,629 --> 01:22:17,199

uh this becomes a very intriguing

2149

01:22:20,390 --> 01:22:18,639

question

2150

01:22:23,270 --> 01:22:20,400

what

2151
01:22:27,430 --> 01:22:23,280
made complex life on earth possible

2152
01:22:29,430 --> 01:22:27,440
is it from an evolutionary standpoint

2153
01:22:31,590 --> 01:22:29,440
contingent on some events

2154
01:22:33,270 --> 01:22:31,600
or is it a sort of convergent

2155
01:22:36,229 --> 01:22:33,280
evolutionary process

2156
01:22:38,550 --> 01:22:36,239
will complex life arise on any world

2157
01:22:41,590 --> 01:22:38,560
that's got enough energy to help power

2158
01:22:43,430 --> 01:22:41,600
it we don't know and so going to europa

2159
01:22:45,110 --> 01:22:43,440
looking at some of that ocean chemistry

2160
01:22:47,270 --> 01:22:45,120
and potentially finding not just simple

2161
01:22:50,390 --> 01:22:47,280
life forms but more complex life forms

2162
01:22:52,550 --> 01:22:50,400
is something that i uh dream of doing

2163
01:22:54,070 --> 01:22:52,560

so i'll finish there and thank you again